Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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Bennett accuses Kilili of using PSS in political campaign. PAGE 2
Judge finds probable cause to charge rape suspect. PAGE 8

Speaker asks Glenna to vacate office today

Tenorio

» Senate president 'surprised' by unilateral decision

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

House Speaker Froilan C. Tenorio (Cov-Saipan) asked Legislative Bureau director Glenna SP. Reyes yesterday to vacate her office by today, saying that Reyes is no longer employed as bureau director on Oct. 1 based on her contract signed in November 2009.

"As your contract did not renew on Oct. 1, 2010, you no longer are employed as director of the Legislative Bureau. Please refrain from performing any additional work in that capacity," Tenorio said in his two-page letter yesterday to Reyes.

Reyes, when asked for comment, said she has yet to fully digest the attachments to the letter that Tenorio wrote to her yesterday.

The speaker asked Reyes to preserve all official records, including electronic records, and turn them over to the House sergeant-at-arms, together with any passwords relating to these records.

"Please vacate the director's office by Oct. 19, 2010, and turn over all keys to the House sergeant-at-arms," Tenorio told Reyes.

Senate President Paul Manglona (R-Rota), for his part, said he's "sur-

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Ada's IPS bagged sole-source contract prior to getting business license

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Ada

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's administration awarded a $392,406 sole-source contract to Michael J. Ada's Integrated Professional Solutions LLC even before the private company applied for and obtained a business license from the Department of Finance, *Saipan Tribune* learned yesterday.

IPS applied for and obtained a business license to engage in professional consulting on Oct. 14.

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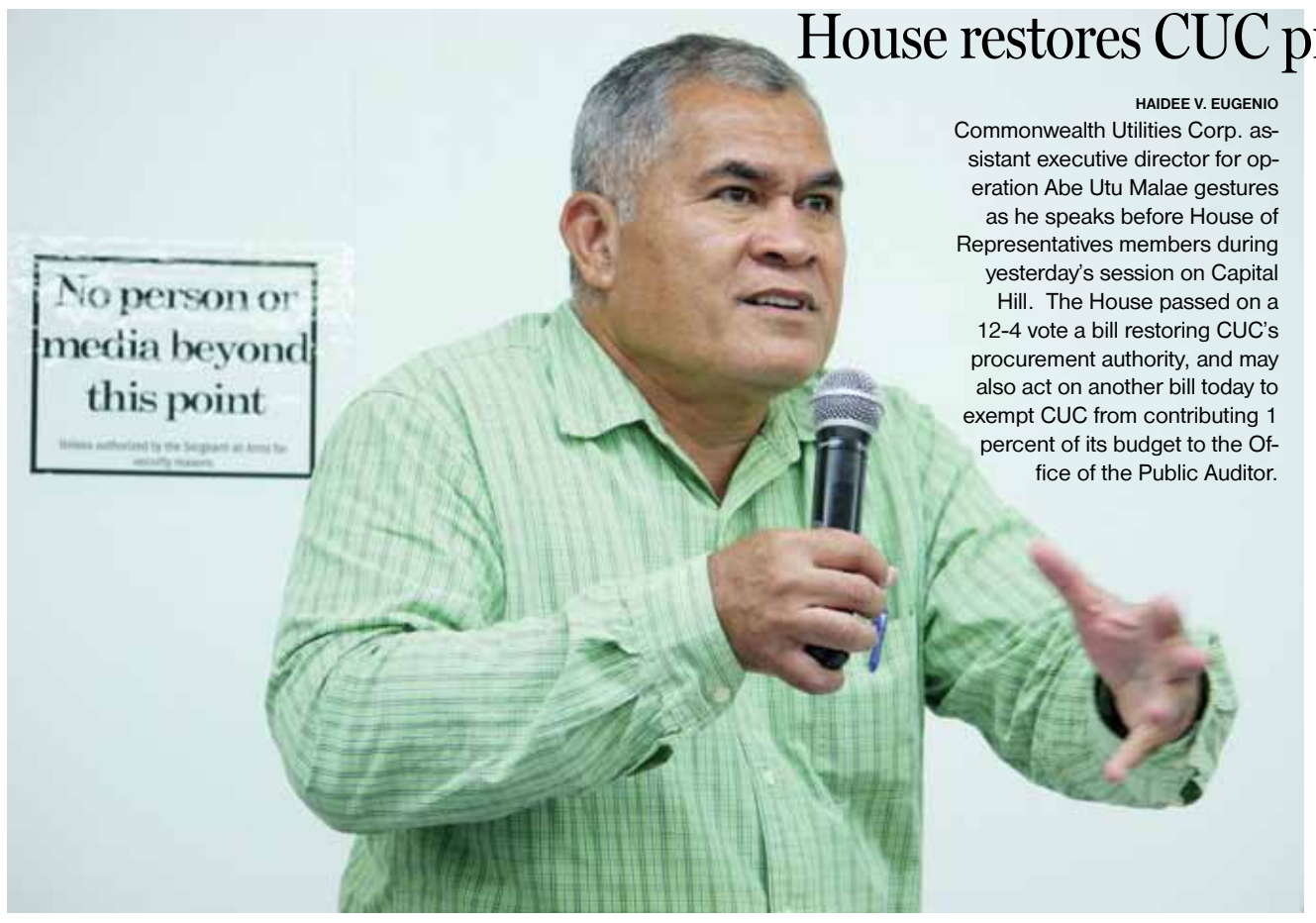

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
Commonwealth Utilities Corp. assistant executive director for operation Abe Utu Malae gestures as he speaks before House of Representatives members during yesterday's session on Capital Hill. The House passed on a 12-4 vote a bill restoring CUC's procurement authority, and may also act on another bill today to exempt CUC from contributing 1 percent of its budget to the Office of the Public Auditor.

House restores CUC procurement power

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The House of Representatives passed yesterday a bill restoring the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s procurement authority to give CUC the flexibility needed to partner with the private sector to provide reliable service at efficient rates, including fuel.

Rep. Stanley Torres' (Ind-Saipan) House Bill 17-114 passed on a 12-4 vote.

The bill now goes to the Senate where, just a few months back, amended the same type of legislation.

Rep. Frank Dela Cruz (R-Saipan), who was among the four who voted against the bill yesterday, said it does not make sense to pass a similar bill knowing that the Senate has strong objections to it.

The House, however, held off action yesterday on another CUC bill, Senate Bill 17-44, which exempts CUC from contributing 1-percent of its budget to the Office of the Public Auditor.

See CUC on Page 4

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OPINION METER

This week's poll:
Instead of awarding it to Integrated Professional Solutions, should the government have had opened the outsourcing of the CNMI's ARRA Office to a bid?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE

CDA Evolution
The Commonwealth Development Authority must determine a vision for the agency and the community and not just become a money-lending institution.

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Nuclear Option
From the 1950s Pentagon to today's Obama administration, the United States has repeatedly pondered, planned and threatened use of nuclear weapons against North Korea.

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Johnny Knoxville and his "Jackass" gang are even bigger hits in three dimensions.

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SEE INSIDE FOR DETAILS *Terms and conditions apply

Local

Absentee voters worried their votes may not be counted

Off-island voters expressed their concerns yesterday about their votes not being counted in the congressional election next month due to confusing instructions from the Commonwealth Election Commission.

Saipan Tribune received several phone calls from registered absentee voters expressing their concern that the absence of their signatures on the absentee form may turn into an invalid ballot.

"Our big concern is that this is a federal election and I don't think that they can allow votes that are not authenticated by a signed affidavit," one of the off-island voters told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

Another caller described as confusing instructions indicated in the ballot form, specifically instructing voters not to sign the document.

Based on the election commission's absentee ballot form, voters were instructed to "do not sign the form at this time" in step no. 2

And then later it instructs the voter to mail it as is. Also, on the affidavit, it says "signed on" ____ "at"_____.

An off-island voter revealed that they called to clarify with the commission if the date should be placed at the "on" and the time and village to be placed "at" because it was not indicated in the directions.

According to election commission director Robert A. Guerrero, the provision of the step 2 is to ensure that the voter checks the packet to ensure that there is no mark on it upon receipt.

"That was the reason for the statement 'Do not sign the form at this time.' The provision to ensure the voter signs the affidavit after full review of the packet was unintentionally left out," Guerrero explained yesterday.

After discussing the issue with the commission's legal counsel, Guerrero said packets received with a copy of their pictured ID should be accepted.

Guerrero also clarified that the provisions on the affidavit "on" is the date the affidavit is completed and "at" is the city and state.

"This is the original form. The only difference is that the notary provision was removed as required by both our statute and federal. The rest of the affidavit is self-explanatory," added Guerrero.

As of Oct. 14, the commission recorded a total of 998 registered absentee voters on its website. The number is expected to increase as the deadline to receive absentee request is not until Oct. 21, a day prior to the early voting for three islands.

As of Sept. 17, the commission also recorded a total of 16,603 registered voters including absentee voters. ***(Moneth G. Deposa)***

Congressman Kilili
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Food stamps up $1.96 million.
Thanks for the extra food to feed my family.
$250 Social Security COLA check
I can use that extra money for medicine.
Military academy slots for NMI students doubled
I want to go the Naval Academy.
Over $100 million in Recovery Act money
Our economy needs that help in these tough times.
375 Recovery Act jobs
Our customers keep buying.
Entry for Russian and Chinese tourists
We have lots of guests this week.
Hotel staff
Re-elect Kilili on Nov. 2.
No. 3 on the ballot.
www.kililiforcongress.com
Paid for by Committee to Elect Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan

Saipan's Katori Shrine celebrates 25 years

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Katori Shrine at the Sugar King Park will celebrate its 25th anniversary on October 23.

One of Saipan's best-known Japan shrines celebrates 25 years this month, with dozens of religious followers anticipated to make their annual pilgrimage to Saipan for the festivities.

The Katori Shrine at the Sugar King Park will celebrate its 25th anniversary on Oct. 23, 2010. Katori Shrine members from Japan will be on-island to conduct their annual memorial ceremony at the shrine and to celebrate the much-anticipated Japanese Autumn Festival at the Garapan Central Park.

The original Katori Jinja (shrine) was built on Saipan in 1911 during the Japanese colonial era of the islands. The jinja was destroyed by fire in 1944 during World War II. Forty years later, the then-Marianas Visitors Bureau and Katori Federation re-established the site of religious services at Sugar King Park.

"Today, our whole community enjoys the park and its natural surroundings at the Katori Jinja site," said Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Perry Tenorio. "We are very fortunate to have the commitment of the Saipan Mayor's Office, the Northern Mariana Islands Japanese community, and Japan Saipan Travel Association to keep our many memorial sites—like Katori Jinja—maintained through beautification programs."

The ceremony will begin at 10am. The Autumn Festival will immediately follow with games, food, and live entertainment. Both events are open to the public. ***(PR)***

Tourism Tuesday
A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority
Tourism is everybody's business.
Korea's OnStyle "The Next Star"
into the saipan
In September 2010 Korea's "The Next Star" model contest aired two episodes filmed in Saipan. OnStyle is one of the leading cable TV network channels in Korea, and the two episodes "The Next Star in Saipan" brought the Northern Marianas over $112,000 in ad exposure value.
"The Next Star" program is a 7-episode special series featuring the 16th annual CeCi Model Contest reality show. While in Saipan, Ceci magazine shot on location at Mt. Tapochau, walking and pose training at Palms Resort Saipan, and a Clinique commercial.
Korea is a primary tourism market of the Northern Marianas. As of August 2010, Korea registered 100,121 visitors arrivals for the fiscal year, up 13 percent from the same period the previous fiscal year.
HAFA ADAI & TIROW WAY
MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY
This Tourism Tuesday space is provided by Saipan Tribune

Bennett accuses Kilili of using PSS in political campaign

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Ambrose Bennett, the former public school teachers' representative, filed a complaint to the Board of Education accusing U.S. Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan of using the NMI education system in his political campaign.

Sablan's office, in conjunction with the Public School System, hosted visiting U.S. Department of Education officials in a parents' forum held at the Fiesta Resort & Spa last Thursday night.

The complaint indicated that Sablan disrupted the education process and used his position as delegate and guest speaker at the forum to promote a political outcome involving education reform for the CNMI and insular areas.

"While I am not sure of Delegate Kilili's official capacity at the parents' forum, he was clearly acting in a capacity to represent our PSS as materials from his office were being distributed at the door. In this capacity, Delegate Kilili had an ethical obligation to meet the expectations of every person actively involved in a PSS function. One of those expectations is that you cannot inject politics during a PSS activity," Bennett's complaint stated.

Bennett

Bennett revealed that there is an existing memorandum from the education commissioner and board policy that forbid politics in the educational workplace and activities.

"Delegate Kilili violated the commissioner's memo and the board's policy at the forum when he stated to Dr. [Carl] Harris 'he is supporting another candidate who is against Obama' in reference to me," claimed Bennett, adding that he did not go to the event to be politically attacked.

Bennett is a staunch supporter of one of Sablan's opponents, Juan N. Babauta of the Republican Party.

He asked the board to sanction Sablan for the said remarks during the PSS activity.

Saipan Tribune tried to get comments from Board of Education chair Lucy Blanco-Maratita and member Herman T. Guerrero, but they did not respond to both emails and phone calls yesterday.

Sablan, for his part, countered Bennett's allegations.

"First, I want to say again how historic the visit of Dr. Harris and Ms. Martinez was. Dr. Harris is the highest-ranking official from the US-DOE ever to visit the Northern Marianas. And he and Ms. Martinez spent three days here, visiting seven schools on Saipan and Tinian, and meeting with teachers, principals, students, and parents. This was also an historic opportunity for all of us to participate in the 'Listening and Learning' tour that Education Secretary Arne Duncan and President Obama. I invited Dr. Harris here so that he could take what he learns about the Northern Marianas back to Washington and add that information to national plans for education," he explained.

He added, "I thought it was a great way to end the three-day visit with a town hall, which I co-hosted with PSS. I have made town halls one of the most important tools for letting the public know about the work we are doing for the Northern Marianas in Congress. And it is also so important for me to hear from the people I represent, so I know what they need and what more I can do for them."

Sablan said that to the best of his recollection, Bennett was not at the said town hall meeting last Thursday night.

"I did see him outside, before the town hall began. He was trying to give Dr. Harris a proposal that Mr. Bennett has to require that schools all around the United States teach students about the insular areas. Personally, I don't think that the federal government should force local school boards to include such specific items on their curriculum. We wouldn't want someone in North Dakota forcing us to study the history of North Dakota, would we?" he asked.

Sablan claimed that Bennett has a long history of filing complaints of this nature citing in 2007 Bennett complained to Congress that U.S. citizen teachers from the mainland were the victims of labor abuse here in the Northern Marianas.

"Mr. Bennett also holds a grudge, I think, because I didn't give him a job. I think we all know not to take Mr. Bennett too seriously. But, again, I was very pleased that the Department of Education officials came to the Northern Marianas at my invitation. I will continue to make education my priority in Congress," Sablan added.

Ex-convict gets 22-month jail term for illegal possession of 'ice'

The Superior Court has imposed a 22-month jail term on an ex-convict who pleaded guilty to illegal possession of methamphetamine or "ice."

Associate Judge Ramona V. Manglona ordered that defendant Frankie Tudela Mafnas shall serve the 22-month jail term without the possibility of parole or probation.

Manglona gave Mafnas credit for the time he already served in prison since March 5, 2010.

The judge ordered the defendant to pay a $2,000 fine and a $100 court assessment fee.

Mafnas and his counsel, assistant public defender Douglas W. Hartig, entered a plea agreement with assistant attorney general Benjamin K. Petersburg.

Mafnas pleaded guilty to illegal possession of a controlled substance. In return, the prosecution agreed not to revoke the defendant's probation in two previous consolidated criminal cases.

The defendant, however, agreed to admit to the violation of probation in two other previous criminal cases. He also agreed for the extension of probation for one year, which shall expire on March 7, 2013.

The government also agreed to move to dismiss the remaining charge of trafficking of a controlled substance in the information. The court accepted the motion.

Police stated in a report that members of the Department of Public Safety's Drug Enforcement Task Force Unit used a "confidential source" to purchase "ice" from Mafnas on two occasions on March 3, 2010. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

ON RESULT OF DPS DESK AUDIT

Fitial administration to implement actions after complete review

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

After the complete analysis of the independent desk audit report, the Fitial administration intends to implement necessary actions that will benefit the Department of Public Safety and the government as a whole, according to press secretary Angel A. Demapan yesterday.

In response to *Saipan Tribune*'s inquiry about the desk audit issue, Demapan said Fitial and Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos have received the audit review for DPS.

"Given that it is nearly 200 pages of information, the report remains before the governor and lieutenant governor as they continue to review the comprehensive analysis and recommendations," he said.

Upon completion of the review, the press secretary said the administration will move ahead in planning how best to address the recommendation contained in the audit.

Nonetheless, Demapan said, all the findings and recommendations will be completely analyzed.

"In commissioning the desk audit, the administration sought to identify existing deficiencies and causes for inefficiencies as part of is goal to rehabilitate government functions in an effort to make operation more efficient and cost-effective," he added.

The $300,000 desk audit conducted by the Virginia-based Management Analysis Inc. revealed that certain divisions at DPS and the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs are overstaffed, incur lots of overtime costs, have overlapping and duplicative functions, and have positions that are unjustifiable such as a deputy secretary, a special advisor, or a media specialist, among other findings.

MAI provided a long list of recommendations to improve the efficiency, delivery of services, meet all local and federal laws and regulations, and produce cost savings at DPS and DCCA.

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Samoa lawmaker says tsunami donations misspent

APIA, Samoa (Samoa Observer/PIR)—In Samoa, Prime Minister Tuilaepa Sa'ilele Malielegaoi and his deputy Misa Telefoni should stop being defensive and tell the truth, said the outspoken Gagaemauga No. 2 Member of Parliament, Levaopolo Talatonu.

Levaopolo told the Sunday Samoan the public deserves the truth.

"I don't know what other Treasury breakdown report Tuilaepa is asking for," he said.

"The report they're having this argument over is the government's own Tsunami report and it has not been approved by Parliament.

"Parliament has already approved the use of 271 million tala [US$111 million] of tsunami funds received from overseas in its February sitting.

"That report is the legal binding document."

The detailed breakdown of how that 271 million tala [US$111 million] is to be disbursed is in a separate Treasury document not tabled which Levaopolo said, "I have in my possession."

In essence, he told the Sunday Samoan, that what was approved by Parliament is what guides the government and its tsunami spending.

"But what seems to have happened is that government went away and used the funds as they like. That being the case then what they've done is illegal."

Levaopolo said he cares too much about the repercussions on the country.

"Tuilaepa and Misa should simplify the issue because John Campbell [of TV3] has only come in because of the questions raised by our people in NZ and Australia - asking where their assistance has gone."

Levaopolo was quick to add that government has not misappropriated or abused the funds.

"It's because they're dodging the truth, that people think they're using the funds in an inappropriate way," he said.

The answer is simple, he said.

"Misa or Tuilaepa should come out and say, 'We have redirected the funds to other government developments because the country has no money'.

"And what that picture also shows is next year's budget will involve more loans by government."

The report which Levaopolo gave a copy to Sunday Samoan provides detailed breakdown of the 271 million tala [US$111 million] tsunami assistance from September to February, "none of it contains government money."

He illustrated an example of how government has re-allocated parts of the 271 million tala [US$111 million] to its other developments.

"Let's ask the question, who said to relocate the villages? It was the government because they have a town planning plan that's been there for a while.

"And that's why the Prime Minister's village of Lepa has been conveniently relocated to leave an area at the coast for this town planning project. And they have allocated 6 million tala [US$2,500,000] of the 271 million tala [US$111 million] of tsunami funds to that.

"Since I've been in Parliament, there has been nothing tabled or approved by Parliament in the past about this town planning project because it's not commercially viable.

"We also see that now with all the new settlements, all the standard maintenance for roads, electricity, water that needed to be done before the tsunami are now conveniently bundled together so as to use the tsunami assistance.

"And that disbursement hides another wrong by the government because all those utilities maintenance is where the 15million tala [US$6,100,000] unforeseen was to be used.

"But their member from Salega, Tapuai Moananu admitted in the house that the unforeseen budget was spent to pay their Advisory committees.

"In essence the tsunami money has been used to replenish or replace the unforeseen which means the tsunami funds indirectly were used to pay their advisory committees."

Levaopolo said this has prompted him about another issue to table at Parliament.

"My constituency is also on the coast so we must also be eligible for government funding to relocate up to higher grounds."

However, one of the actions that have incensed Levaopolo is the so-called 'double dipping by government corporations'.

"Our people in the tsunami affected areas are told they have to pay reconnection for water or electricity but that's wrong because our overseas people gave money to be used for those kinds of hardships," he said.

"I mean before the tsunami our people were already connected so why do they have to pay new connections? Isn't that part and parcel of them recovering from what damage the tsunami had done?

"The assistance should have included all those things because it's not the government's money. What we have now are these government corporations profiteering through connection fees which didn't cost them to install?"

There is a challenge to the Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister.

"The tsunami report tabled in the house has already approved in detail. There's no reason to wait for more Treasury breakdown as they've already given the details to Parliament. This is rubbish as far as I'm concerned.

"The house has approved the usage of the 271 million tala [US$111 million] tsunami assistance in detail. It's a matter now of doing the right thing and the government admitting it has used the money to fund its other development projects because it has run out of money.

ADA

From Page 1

That was a day after the government completed the processing of IPS' 18-month contract to manage the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act program in the CNMI.

The administration planned to award a contract to Ada as early as September, when Ada informed the governor he's stepping down as Commerce secretary.

Right before his resignation took effect on Oct. 9, Ada made sure that the CNMI submitted a 1512 report to ARRA before the Oct. 10 deadline.

Ada, in a phone interview yesterday, said while it's true that he didn't get a business license before his consulting firm was awarded a contract, his company didn't receive a single cent until they completed all the requirements that included obtaining a business license.

He said IPS got an advance payment only on Oct. 15.

Based on the 13-page contract, IPS was to be paid $78,418 or 20-percent of the total contract price once all contract signatures have been completed.

Ada also said his private consulting firm retained three of four ARRA program employees. He said he didn't absorb the program manager because the position will duplicate his post.

A government official who has spent several years in procurement matters said yesterday that the government should have made sure that the local company it is awarding a contract to has a business license.

He said if the company is from off-island, the government sometimes foregoes requiring a CNMI business license prior to considering that firm's proposals.

In the case of Ada's private firm, the procurement expert said it should be noted that Ada was able to promptly secure a business license.

The Integrated Professional Solutions LLC's business license, a copy of which was obtained yesterday, shows that it was issued on Oct. 14, 2010 and expires on Oct. 14, 2011. The business license authorizes IPS to engage in professional consulting.

Response to critics

Ada said had the government bid out the contract to privatize ARRA management, he would have submitted a bid.

"It's unfortunate that it's a sole-source contract but I would have submitted a bid," he said.

Fitial had said Ada's extensive historical knowledge and non-public information of all ARRA funds gives him clear advantage should the CNMI bid out the services according to procurement regulations.

The governor said he does not want to risk losing $100 million in ARRA funding or portions of it for not having an effective and continuous management of the ARRA program.

Ada said IPS has four employees, including himself, that will manage the ARRA program.

"People have to realize that because this service is now privatized, I now have to pay for office and vehicle lease, insurance and salaries of my employees, and other expenses. Even before I could pay myself, I have to pay all my other obligations. It's not as if I have all this money to myself," he said.

The new ARRA office is now on the third floor of the Marianas Business Plaza in Susupe, but it is still under renovation.

In the meantime, people who have questions about the ARRA program could still call the Commerce office at 664-3010.

When Ada was still in government, he was paid by the government only for being a Commerce secretary and not for also serving as CNMI state lead for ARRA.

His annual salary as Commerce secretary was some $43,000 after a 10-percent pay cut, which he said was the lowest salary paid to a department secretary.

In addition, he was also the one overseeing all ARRA-related projects, applications and funding worth some $100 million but was not paid a single cent for it.

Many jurisdictions across the U.S. have outsourced the management of ARRA to large consulting firms but Fitial had said the CNMI was not in a financial position to follow suit at the onset of the ARRA program.

Ada said ARRA allowed the CNMI to have a budget of $500,000 for the management operation, including payments for employees. The $392,406 contract is the balance of that $500,000 which Ada said will be used for 18 months until the ARRA program expires.

But former representative Tina Sablan had said the Fitial administration "has made a regular practice of creating emergencies, real or perceived, in order to justify sole-sourcing contracts to political supporters."

"This latest and very lucrative contract to Mr. Ada is extremely questionable but it's just one of many questionable contracts sole-sourced by this administration," she added.

CUC

From Page 1

The House resumes its session this morning and may vote on this bill, which was debated on yesterday.

CUC assistant executive director for operation Abe Utu Malae expressed support to the SB 17-44 yesterday.

Meanwhile, Torres' HB 17-114 says portions of Public Law 16-17 have placed restrictions on CUC, which lead to "inefficiencies that translate directly into higher costs to consumers."

"These inefficiencies must be removed. It is the purpose of this Act to remove the impediments and inefficiencies and restore CUC's procurement authority such that it will be able to enter into agreements with providers to ensure efficient delivery of services at reasonable rates to consumers," the bill says.

It says CNMI ratepayers deserve a utility that constantly delivers high quality power at reasonable prices.

Oil prices are approaching $100 per barrel for delivery to Saipan, and well over $100 per barrel for delivery to Rota.

"It is imperative that CUC be able to provide service which is affordable to the Commonwealth's residents and businesses," Torres said.

CUC has been placed directly under the Office of the Governor when Gov. Benigno R. Fitial issued an emergency declaration for the CNMI in 2008.

At the time, the Legislature expressed concern about the suspension of existing statutes that are meant to be guidelines and safeguards in terms of procurement, particularly with the Commonwealth Public Utility Commission Act of 2006.

SPEAKER

From Page 1

prised" by the speaker's decision to unilaterally ask the bureau director to vacate her office without consulting or notifying him first.

"This decision has to be made by the House speaker and the Senate president. I am surprised by this decision by the speaker. I was hoping that political issues are now behind us," Manglona said.

The Senate killed Tenorio's bill legalizing casino operation on Saipan, and the House and the Senate had been deadlocked on the budget until the government had to partially shut down because of that impasse.

"We have many priorities to work hard on after the budget crisis, now this. I just hope we'll be able to work cooperatively on this," said Manglona, adding that he reserves further comment.

Tenorio, in his letter yesterday to Reyes, cited a provision in Reyes' contract which she signed on Nov. 12, 2009.

"This contract shall automatically renew on Oct. 1, 2010 without any further action being taken by employer or employee, provided funds are obligated for the position by the passage of a budget or by continuing resolution for the Fiscal Year beginning Oct. 1, 2010, for the period covered by Fiscal Year 2011," it reads.

The speaker asked Attorney General Ed Buckingham whether there was a budget in effect as of Oct. 1, 2010, to which Buckingham said "no."

Tenorio also said that the so-called "continuing resolution" provisions of Article III, Section 9(a) were repealed by last year's amendment and no longer can be a source of obligation authority.

"Therefore, regardless of our differing opinions regarding the validity of any contract extension beyond Jan. 11, 2010, your contract did not automatically renew on Oct. 1, 2010 because, on that date, no funds were, or could be, obligated for the position," he said.

Tenorio also told Reyes that her contract's provision is date-specific.

"The contract either renews automatically on Oct. 1, 2010, or it does not. There is no language permitting a later renewal if a budget eventually is passed with funds for the director's position," the speaker said.

Attached to Tenorio's letter are Buckingham's Oct. 15 response to his question on Reyes's contract, the AG's Sept. 7 opinion on the government shutdown, Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's executive order declaring a state of emergency when the government shut down because of lack of timely passed budget, and copies of Reyes' previous contracts and related letters.

It was the second time that the speaker asked Reyes to vacate her office. The first one was right after the inaugural session of the 17th Legislature in January. Reyes stood her ground and remained as bureau director.

The Senate president at the time said Reyes should be allowed to work until the expiration of her contract.

At the time, Reyes' contract was thought of to be expiring on Sept. 30, 2010, but this was not the case because the contract specifically states that the contract is "automatically renewed" unless action is taken by the Legislature or the director and provided funds are obligated for the position by passage of a budget for the fiscal year beginning Oct. 1, 2010.

Tenorio told *Saipan Tribune* that he already has a person in mind to replace Reyes.

But that person is not former Rota Rep. Daniel Quitugua whom he wanted to appoint in January when he first asked Reyes to vacate her office.

Suspension of sentence on woman who had sex with boy denied

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman yesterday denied a stay of execution of the sentence requested by a 29-year-old woman who was sentenced to eight years in prison for sexually abusing a minor.

Wiseman ruled that defendant Geraldine Marie Sanchez has failed to satisfy the requirements necessary for issuing a stay of execution.

The judge concluded that when it comes to sexual abuse of a minor, the public has spoken loud and clear, with harsh sentences such as a 30-year and 10-year jail terms for the first and second degree sexual abuse of a minor, respectively.

"Applying the Common Law 'coming of age' rule would be contrary to the will of the people as expressed through our laws, which the Court is bound to follow," said Wiseman in denying Sanchez's motion.

A jury trial found Sanchez guilty of sexual abuse of a minor in the first and second degrees, but not guilty on the charge of sexual abuse of a minor in the fourth degree.

On Sept. 22, 2010, Wiseman sentenced the defendant to eight years in prison, to be served without parole.

The report date to the Department of Corrections was Oct. 6, 2010. She will be released on Sept. 30, 2018.

Sanchez, through counsel, assistant public defender Michael Curtis Brown, moved for a stay of execution of sentence.

Brown argued that a stay is warranted because defendant's appeal raises substantial questions of law likely to result in a reversal of her conviction or in an order for a new trial.

Brown specifically contended that the court erred when it did not apply the Common Law "coming of age" rule to the case at hand.

Brown argued that the court erred by denying Sanchez's objection to the "on or about" jury instruction.

The defense lawyer argued that Sanchez is not a flight risk and does not pose a danger to the community.

Sanchez moved to Saipan from Guam seven years ago and since then had made the island her home. She claimed that she does not pose a danger to the community since she has been a law-abiding citizen her entire life.

Assistant Attorney General Brian Gallagher, on behalf of the government, argued that Sanchez is a convicted sex offender and is no longer a law-abiding member of the community.

Wiseman agreed with Gallagher.

"Since defendant is facing a substantial length of incarceration, the likelihood of flight is substantial," Wiseman said.

More importantly, the judge noted, an individual such as defendant, who has been convicted of sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree does pose a danger to the community.

Brown claimed that the victim could have been 16 years of age during the time of the sexual assault since the offense occurred "on or about August 2009, until the first week of September 2009."

Brown argued that because the victim's 16th birthday was on Sept. 6, 2009, had the court given the "coming of age" jury instruction, the jury might have returned a not guilty verdict.

Brown based this belief on the fact that the evidence presented at trial was that the offense occurred "before my birthday," with no other information given.

Wiseman said under the Common Law "coming of age" rule the age of an individual is determined on the first moment of the day preceding his or her actual birthday.

Wiseman said the defendant claims that if the court were to apply this rule, the first three counts of the indictment would have been dismissed since the government would not have been able to satisfy the age element required under either of these counts.

In this case, Wiseman said, the facts found by the jury, remain that the victim was under the age of 16 when the abuse was committed upon him.

"The court did not provide its own interpretation of the unequivocal statute applicable to the case, nor did it infer as to what point close to 16 years of age a victim would have to be for the statute not to apply," he said.

Wiseman said he followed the law as written and acknowledged that public law represents the will and sentiment of the people of the community.

He said the "effect of using the Common Law rule to determine age would be to provide a criminal wrongdoer a pass on the extreme harm perpetrated against a child by the medieval fiction that a child reaches 16 years of age the day before his birthday for penal law purposes."

Wiseman concluded that a person reaches a given age on the date of his or her birth and not on the earliest part of the day before the individual's said birthday.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Kagman High School to host PTSA meeting today

Kagman High School will hold a Parent, Teachers, Student Association meeting today, , Oct. 19, from 5:30pm to 6:30pm.

For more information, call Kagman High School at 237-3840. ***(PR)***

Book sale set on Nov. 13

The CNMI Friends of the Library will be hosting a book sale on Nov. 13 at the Joeten Kiyu Library in susupe.

Hardcover books will be priced at $1 and softcovers will be priced at $.50.

For more information on the event and or to be a volunteer member of the CNMI Friends of the Library, please call Mrs. Janice Sablan at 234-5459 or Schobwuut Premier Consulting's Rose T. Ada-Hocog at 287-0818. You can also email them at janicesablan@yahoo.com or rosetada@yahoo.com. ***(PR)***

Pamphlets of House Legislative Initiatives out

Are you aware of the House Legislative Initiative 16-13, 16-18, and 17-1? For more information you can pick up pamphlets at Northern Marianas College on Oct. 21 from 5pm to 6:25pm. ***(PR)***

DISCONNECTION NOTICE

IT&E would like to remind its customers that payments not received by close of business on October 20, will result in temporary suspension of all telephone services after 6:00 p.m. on that day. To prevent temporary suspension, customers must pay their bills on or before October 20.

THIS WILL BE THE ONLY NOTIFICATION IT&E CUSTOMERS WILL RECEIVE*.

* You have the right to dispute this notice. You must state your claim in person or in writing no later than October 20. You must pay any amount not in dispute to avoid disconnection. Payment denotes acceptance of all charges.

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COE hails five highly qualified school principals

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan named five new highly qualified principals in the latest issue of the Public School System's *Students First.*

These individuals include Craig Garrison, who was recently named the administrator for Marianas High School; Jesse Tudela, who was appointed the new principal for Saipan Southern High; Dionne Santos, who was named new principal for Tinian Elementary School; Martin Dalsaso, the new administrator for San Antonio Elementary; and Naomi Nishimura, the new principal for William S. Reyes Elementary School.

Garrison replaced Karen Borja at MHS and has served as vice principal at SSHS prior to his appointment as school principal. *Saipan Tribune* learned that the former principal Borja has extended her medical leave in the States.

Tudela, who was SSHS former vice principal, was promoted to the position when Garrison left the school last month.

For Santos, her appointment to the administrator position was announced by the commissioner in August as replacement for Maria Rios who retired last June.

Dalsaso, the new principal of SAES, was the former vice principal of Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School and replaced Katrina Lizama. For her part, Lizama was assigned to PSS' office of instructional services.

Nishimura, meantime, took over the position previously held by Lynette Villagomez who is the new program director of PSS Territorial and Freely Associated States Education Grant, or commonly known as the federal Title I Reading First Grant that PSS handles in the CNMI. She was also the former vice principal of WSR prior to her appointment.

Commissioner Sablan, in her statement to *Students' First*, described the five individuals as seasoned educators and experienced leaders who have served in different capacities within the PSS and are ready to bring their expertise into the schools.

The education board adopted policy and requirements for school principals and vice principals to meet in order to be classified as highly qualified administrators. These include obtaining a degree, passing Praxis tests, obtain the necessary certificates and have long years of teaching experience.

PSS classified the principals and vice principals as school administrators. There are 20 public schools on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. Each school under PSS is designated one principal while other schools have one or two vice principals depending on school enrollment.

School administrators, to become fully certified, must have a degree or higher, pass Praxis tests, and completed all courses to get an administrator's certification which *Saipan Tribune* learned comprises of seven different "certificates."

Majority of these "courses" are offered in online universities while other sessions are being offered by PSS by bringing in experts from the U.S.

Like teachers and counselors, a compensation plan for administrators is being enforced by PSS where salary provided is based on the certification they obtained and the years of their service.

Like public school teachers, school administrators and counselors are expected to meet the federal mandate of highly qualified personnel which deadline is July 31, 2011.

Aging Center Halloween bash on Oct. 29

The *man'amko* are prepping up for a big Halloween bash scheduled on Oct. 29.

Aging Center program coordinator Walter Manglona said this year's Halloween party for the island's senior citizens will be held at the Aging Center.

"It will be a fun Halloween celebration for the *man'amko*," he said.

According to Manglona, this year's Halloween bash will be held at the center instead of their usual venue at the beach.

"We usually hold it at the beach but we decided to have it at the center this year since it's more convenient," Manglona told *Saipan Tribune*.

Manglona said the *man'amko* can easily access the restrooms at the Aging Center and the place is air-conditioned so it will be favorable for them since they will be wearing make-up and costumes.

"Their makeup won't smear and it won't be too hot to wear their costumes," he added.

Manglona said the *man'amko* will enjoy the Halloween party as there will be fun and games for them, including a costume contest.

"I'm going to work closely with the [Senior Advisory] Council on this one so we can come up with prizes," he said.

Manglona said the seniors' end-of the month birthday festivities will be celebrated together with this year's Halloween bash.

He said the monthly blessing for the *man'amko* will also be revived during this year's Halloween and birthday celebration.

"Without God's blessing, I'm not sure what kind of direction we're going to take," he said.

Manglona said it was the *man'amko* who decided to invite a Catholic priest to give the monthly blessing.

"We brought it up to the congregates and everybody wants it. There's no discrimination here. Everybody, even those that are not Catholic, agreed to it and they don't mind," he said.

Manglona said the newly elected Senior Advisory Council at the Aging Center solicit and accept in-kind donations that are legal, healthy and not harmful for their Halloween party on Oct. 29.

For donation or more information, call the Senior Advisory Council at the Aging Center at 233-1320 or 233-1321. ***(Clarissa V. David)***

BoG donates $15K to Red Cross

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Josh Sasamoto, Bank of Guam vice president Marcie Tomokane, Jerry Facey, BoG senior vice president William Deleon Guerrero, Jocelyn Deleon Guerrero, John Hirsh, and J.D. Tenorio.

The Bank of Guam has again shown its annual support for the Red Cross and its humanitarian work here in the CNMI by making a $15,000 donation to the NMI Red Cross.

"Bank of Guam has been one of our most generous supporters over the years," said Red Cross NMI Chapter executive director John Hirsh.

"Not only have they provided a high level of financial support, they have been very active with volunteering at various Red Cross programs like the Walkathon. Bank staff has also served on our local volunteer board of directors," he added. ***(PR)***

Sister Remedios Walkathon moved to Nov. 13

The 3rd Annual Sister Remedios School Memorial Walkathon has been postponed to next month according to its principal.

Sister Martha Ramarui of the Sister Remedios Early Childhood Development Center in Chalan Kanoa said the walkathon was originally scheduled last Saturday, Oct. 16, but is now moved to Nov. 13.

Ramarui told *Saipan Tribune* that the government shutdown affected organizers and sponsors in planning and preparing for the event.

"Because of the shutdown, we were not able to get ourselves ready. We postponed it so that parents will have more time and also for our sponsors," she explained.

The walkathon will be from Minachom Atdao to the Quarter Master along Beach Road. Registration is open at 3pm and the walkathon starts at 4pm.

Ramarui said they are still looking for more sponsors for the walkathon. "We are soliciting for prizes for the raffle draw to be held right after the walkathon," she said.

According to Ramarui, the annual memorial walkathon commemorates the late Sister Remedios Castro, who opened the school along with fellow sisters in 1951.

"Sister Remedios worked in the school all the time, except for the one year that she was assigned to Guam. She was here all the time and really gave her whole life," said the principal.

When Sister Remedios passed away three years ago, Ramarui said they came up with the idea of a walkathon in honor of the school's namesake.

"It's a memorial walkathon and it also helps raise funds for the school," said Ramarui.

For donations and more information, contact Ramarui or Esther Suzuki at 234-6247. ***(Clarissa V. David)***

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax. (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Bank of Guam

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF GUAM, Plaintiff, vs. JESUS S. BARCINAS, Defendant. — Civil Action No. 08-0349-CV — SECOND NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to a Writ of Execution issued by the Court in this matter on May 14, 2010, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendant in the following property.

1) Lot EA 120-2, located in As Falipe, Garapan, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 2,165 square meters, more or less; and

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on October 22, 2010, at the hour of 10:00 am, at the Law Office of Robert T. Torres, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public and will be held in reserve.

Terms and Conditions of Sale.

1. Rights and duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
   a) withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
   b) To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c) To reject any and all bids.
2. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, PO Box 5003758 CK, Saipan, MP 9695, Phone: 670-234-7859; Fax: 670-234-5749.
3. Deposit; Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash or cashier's check. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to the Bank of Guam.
4. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and the Bank of Guam reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct an enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
5. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 13th day of September, 2010.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax. (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF GUAM, Plaintiff, vs. LAURA I. MANGLONA and THOMAS M. MANGLONA, Defendants. — Civil Action No. 08-0214-CV — SECOND NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on July 23, 2010, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in the following property: Lot No. 003 R 30 (formerly known as Block 31, Lot 6), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 003 R 00, the original of which was registered on November 12, 1971 as Document No. 1290 at Land Registry, Saipan, situated on Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 651 square meters, more or less, and recorded at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office on September 12, 1996 as Document No. 96-2289.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on October 29, 2010, at the hour of 10:00 am, at the Law Office of Robert T. Torres, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public and will be held in reserve.

Terms and Conditions of Sale.

1. Rights and duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
   a) withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
   b) To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c) To reject any and all bids.
2. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, PO Box 5003758 CK, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 670-234-7859; Fax: 670-234-5749.
3. Deposit; Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to the Bank of Guam.
4. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and the Bank of Guam reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct an enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
5. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 30th day of September, 2010.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax. (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF GUAM, Plaintiff, vs. ROSLYN C. PALACIOS, Defendants. — Civil Action No. 08-0358-CV — NOTICE OF HEARING ON PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR DEFAULT JUDGMENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on October 21, 2010, at 1:30 p.m., a hearing will be held before Judge David A. Wiseman on Plaintiff's Motion for Default Judgment in the above-captioned matter, at the Superior Court for the CNMI, Guma Hustisia, Civic Center, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Respectfully submitted this 20th day of September, 2010.

/s/ CLERK OF COURT

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Members of the Commonwealth Health Center Volunteers' Association gather at the hospital's gift shop during last week's donation of new printers for the dialysis unit.

CHC Volunteer Association marks 24th year

Since its formation in 1984, the Commonwealth Health Center Volunteer Association has raised more than $2 million in donations for the hospital.

The latest donations are two printers donated by the group last week to the hospital's dialysis unit.

The association was established 24 years ago with the objective to assist and improve hospital care at CHC.

Through the years, notable donations solicited from the community by CHC Volunteer Association include eight hospital beds, telemetry machine, audiometer, baby cradles and accessories, birthing beds, blankets, bronchoscope, C-Arm, colonoscope and endoscope, EKG machine, and fetal monitors.

The volunteers' group also provided hospital room equipment, infant hearing screener, mammography equipment, office equipment, patient gowns, pulmonary aids, typanometer, ultrasound imaging probe, walkers, wheelchairs, and hundreds of items that have benefited the patients at Commonwealth Health Center.

Besides these donations, the gift shop at CHC is also operated by the volunteer association. It offers a wide variety of merchandise and all profits are used for the purchase of lifesaving equipment and special projects for the hospital.

In its 24th anniversary, the association announced that it would once again hold a "Thanksgiving Raffle."

Raffle prizes include turkey baskets, airline tickets, and other popular items. Raffle tickets can be purchased at the CHC gift shop or from volunteers. Interested individuals can also call for tickets at 236-8363 ext. 2908.

The association said that it is thankful to the community for their generous support and donations that have saved the lives of many in the hospital.

CHC volunteers include Aida Ada, Amparo Tenorio, Anna Ludwick, Annie M. Benavente, Carmen Reyes, Choi Myung Soon, Fe Calixterio, Fish Wang, Frank Diaz, Gab Du Chong, Kazumi Ima, Lee Hwang Soon, Lupe Sabino, Melvia Sablan, Patrick Lizama, Rhoda Brownstein, Rieko Guerrero, Rita Tenorio, and Sue Sablan. ***(Moneth G. Deposa)***

Can you identify

THE NMI Council for the Humanities, in collaboration with the *Saipan Tribune,* is running a series of photographs in this section every Tuesday and is inviting the public to identify the persons or places featured in this section.

If you can identify the persons or places in the picture, please contact the NMI Council for the Humanities by telephone (235-4785), via email (photo@nmihumanities.org) or by visiting the Council's office located in Springs Plaza, Gualo Rai. These images are from the Council's Historic Photograph Database which is currently being developed to help document the history and cultures of the CNMI.

Last week's, photo was identified as follows: from left, front row: Abelina M. Taitano, Cindy Taitano, Carmen L. Wenio and Guadalupe T. Eugenio. Back row, from left: Jose M. Taitano and Juliana T. Cabrera. Photo identified by Vivian Rogopes, Leo Kani, Dionisia Taitano, Ernest T. Eugenio, Victoria Magofna, Chong Torres, Bel Guerrero, Angie M. Villagomez, Jamata T. Castro, Frank Mettao, Daniel Eugenio, Thelma K. Duenas, and Abelina T. Iginoef.

Judge finds probable cause to charge rape suspect

The Superior Court yesterday found probable cause to warrant the filing of charges against Michael Anthony Jackson, a 32-year-old ex-convict who was arrested for allegedly kidnapping and raping a 15-year-old girl.

During the preliminary hearing, associate judge David A. Wiseman determined that there is probable cause that the crimes of kidnapping, sexual assault in the first degree, and assault were committed and that Jackson may have committed the offenses.

Wiseman ordered Jackson to answer the charges.

The judge remanded the defendant to the Department of Corrections and set the arraignment for Oct. 25, 2010 at 9am.

Assistant Attorney General Brian Gallagher represented the government. Assistant Public Defender Michael Brown served as counsel for the defendant.

Police said Jackson forced into his car the victim, who was walking along Tun Joaquin Doi Road in Fina Sisu on her way to her residence at 1am last Oct. 9.

The defendant brought the girl to the open field located south of the Saipan airport bunkers where he allegedly raped her inside his car.

After the rape, Jackson also allegedly forced the victim to smoke "ice." The victim later managed to run away.

That night, police arrested the defendant. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Oct. 19, 1999

Voters can choose write-in candidates

Aside from the 68 official candidates whose names appear on the ballots, CNMI voters are also allowed to vote for write-in candidates, the elections chief said. Write-in candidates are those who are not in the official list of candidates certified by the Board of Elections. If a certain position has only one candidate, it doesn't mean that candidate automatically assumes the post, according to Gregorio Sablan, executive director of the Board of Elections. "There are people that voters want to elect in office, but did not file nominating petitions. Every ballot provides a space where voters can write the names of people that they want to vote," Sablan said.

Executor opposes proposal to reduce its compensation

The Bank of Saipan, executor of the Hillblom estate, yesterday opposed the Hillblom Charitable Trust's motion to reduce its scheduled compensation and to allow the pay termination by Dec. 31. BoS was originally scheduled to be paid $150,000 for the month of October. Saying the executor's workload has been reduced, the Trust however recommended that the compensation for the bank be reduced to $75,000 for November, and $25,000 for December. Attorneys for BoS said they agree with the compensation formula that reflects the workload, but they disagreed with the Charitable Trust's assessment of the volume of work which the executor has completed and has yet to finish.

Oct. 19, 2000

Teno intervenes in DEQ, AGO feud

Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio has taken steps to patch up differences between Assistant Attorney General Murphy Peterson and the Division of Environmental Quality that erupted over handling of the issues surrounding the polychlorinated biphenyl contamination in Tanapag. He said he wants the disputes resolved in order not to jeopardize the CNMI government's efforts to address the health and safety concerns of the community. "I firmly believe that all the agencies should work together and see what we can do to resolve this issue," Mr. Tenorio said in an interview yesterday. "My major concern is that I want to make sure that the health and safety of our community and other areas are protected," he added. The local chief executive met the other day with DEQ Director Ignacio V. Cabrera who sought his intervention to press a replacement for Mr. Peterson as part-time legal counsel for the division.

Gov't asked to locate funds to build Center for Women

Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio has been asked to facilitate efforts to identify funding that would pave the way for the construction of the proposed center for women, a project that was conceived several years back. Rep. William S. Torres said the proposed center, which was brought up in 1995 during the leadership of former Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio, will house the Women's Affairs Office, a resource facility, a cafeteria and a day care center. The center was envisioned to be a place where women in the CNMI would find not only solace but the inspiration to achieve economic well-being and empowerment and productive networking, said Mr. Torres.

Oct. 19, 2001

EPA OK's proposed PCB remedy

The US Environmental Protection Agency has approved, on a conditional basis, the US Army Corps of Engineers' proposed treatment of PCB-laced soil in Tanapag. The Army Corps has suggested the on-site treatment of PCB-contaminated soil by means of Indirect Thermal Desorption, and that the contaminated residuals be disposed off-island afterwards. EPA made the announcement Wednesday, after reviewing the Army Corps' recommendations based on a report compiled from the 30-day public commentary period back in July. The conditional approval requires the Army Corps to develop a work plan for using the treatment process and off-site shipment of PCB residuals to the mainland for disposal.

Long-term security program for all CNMI airports sought

The Federal Aviation Administration asked the Commonwealth Ports Authority to prepare a long-term security enhancement program for all CNMI airports. During a two-day visit on Saipan, Honolulu security officials discussed with CPA and Saipan International Airport officials new security requirements enforced by the FAA. Executive Director Carlos H. Salas said FAA officials assisted the CPA identify areas that need further enhancement, including the acquisition of modern security equipment. "We discussed an overview of the airport security program. We're looking at expanding the security measures in the next 12 months to three years," said Salas.

MLSC to increase service to Tinian, Rota

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Attorney Linda Wingenbach, seen here in a file photo consulting with a client, will spearhead Marianas Office of Micronesian Legal Services' increased service on Tinian.

The Marianas Office of Micronesian Legal Services has started a one-year project of increased service to Rota and Tinian.

"We're happy to announce that we will be visiting Rota and Tinian much more frequently," said directing attorney Jane Mack. MLSC provides free legal services in civil cases to low-income people in the CNMI. The outreach project was made possible by federal earmark funding obtained for MLSC by Congressman Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan.

"We have always provided service to Rota and Tinian," Mack said. "We take telephone intakes and exchange documents by fax and email, but our on-island visits have been limited to once a month." With the new federal earmark, MLSC will increase visits to three or four times each month during the one-year project term.

It was a long process to get this special funding for MLSC. "The work to obtain this funding began in April 2009 when I submitted a proposal on behalf of Micronesian Legal Services Corporation to the Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies," Congressman Sablan said in a letter to MLSC. "There are literally tens of thousands of these requests from the 441 members of the House of Representatives, so it was a very competitive process."

MLSC receives most of its funding from the federal government through the Legal Services Corporation, and it has also received some local government support.

"We've been fortunate that the local CNMI government has helped us," Mack said. "Even in the years when the CNMI local government has not been able to provide us direct funding, it has allowed us the use of office space convenient to the people in our community."

When this one-year project ends, MLSC will continue to provide legal representation to the residents of Rota and Tinian in the usual way with its LSC funding and local support.

Under the outreach project, MLSC attorney Dimitri Varmazis will provide service to Rota, while attorney Linda Wingenbach visits Tinian. Paralegal Polly Anne Sablan will visit both islands to work on U.S. citizenship and immigration status issues.

Varmazis has scheduled visits to Rota at the Courthouse for Friday, Oct. 22; Friday, Nov. 5 (with Polly Anne); Tuesday, Nov. 9; and Thursday, Nov. 18.

"We'll be looking for office space on Rota to make our services conveniently available to everyone," Varmazis said.

MLSC has already obtained office space on Tinian at the first floor of the PM Building (about halfway between JC Café and the courthouse).

Wingenbach has scheduled visits to Tinian for Wednesday, Oct. 20 (with Polly Anne); Thursday, Oct. 28; Wednesday, Nov. 3; Wednesday, Nov. 10; and Friday, Nov. 19, 2010. "It's fantastic that the people of Tinian can now have increased access to justice," said Wingenbach.

Clients and applicants can set appointments for Rota or Tinian by calling MLSC on Saipan. Walk-in clients and applicants are also permitted, although people may have to wait if they don't have an appointment. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The open sign is shown at Marianas Office of Micronesian Legal Services' new office on Tinian.

9th Circuit affirms conviction of man in poker robbery

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit has affirmed the conviction of a man over his role in the 2008 armed robbery of Rota Poker.

In affirming the conviction of Angel Barcinas Manglona, the Ninth Circuit ruled that the record contains sufficient evidence to demonstrate that the robbery actually affected commerce.

"Rota Poker was engaged in business with entities outside the CNMI, and it closed temporarily as a result of the robbery," the Ninth Circuit judges said.

The judges said no further evidence is needed to satisfy the statutory requirement of a tie to commerce.

According to court records, Manglona drove his co-defendant Wilbur Masga Inos to Rota Poker on Rota on Aug. 4, 2008.

Inos proceeded to rob Rota Poker of cash using a rifle and ammunition provided by Manglona.

Manglona entered into a plea agreement with the U.S. government. He pleaded guilty to one count of violating the Hobbs Act robbery.

In January 2010, the federal court sentenced Manglona to 41 months in jail.

Manglona appealed to the Ninth Circuit to reverse his conviction.

Manglona, through counsel, argued that the U.S. government could not have shown the robbery tie to commerce because, pursuant to the Covenant to establish a CNMI in political union with the U.S., the Commerce Clause does not apply to the CNMI.

The Ninth Circuit, however, ruled that assuming that Manglona has not waived this argument, it is without merit.

The judges cited a case with similar argument in which they determined that "whether the commerce clause…applies to the CNMI does not affect the authority of Congress to enact legislation applicable to the CNMI."

"Manglona's argument would render that authority meaningless by preventing the government from enforcing statutes passed pursuant to the Commerce Clause," the judges said.

Manglona also argued that the commerce element of the Hobbs Act is unconstitutionally vague as applied to conduct in the CNMI.

The judges said the defendant's plea agreement appears to waive this argument.

Even if not waived, the judges pointed out, the argument is precluded by a Ninth Circuit ruling in U.S. vs. Rodriguez, which held that "the common understanding of the reach of the Commerce Clause" supplies "notice of the scope of the conduct proscribed by section 1951 (Hobbs Act)."

In light of Congress' authority under the Commerce Clause, the judges said the Commerce Clause to enact legislation that is effective in the CNMI, that holding in the Rodriguez case is applicable to the CNMI. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

GRACE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY MISSION CONVENTION

Students from K4 to 12th grade showcase their class costumes that represent the countries they have chosen.

The third grade class headed by Josh Zwicker parades with their Canadian costumes during the opening of Mission Convention Week. This year's theme is "Teach them to Obey."

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Grace Christian Academy is celebrating a week-long Mission Convention with the theme "Teach Them to Obey."

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MEMBER
The Associated Press
Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Wait a New York minute!

New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg takes a healthy interest in society's eating habits. At times his ideas are visionary, such as requiring chain restaurants to list nutritional information on their menus, a law that was copied in California. Better consumer information is always a good idea; it's startling to realize that a supposedly healthy salad can contain more than half the calories most people should eat in a day.

Then there are Bloomberg's less welcome ideas, the ones that reach into shopping carts. He has, for example, launched a campaign to pressure manufacturers to lower the sodium content in their foods rather than leaving it to consumers to make their own choices. His latest push is even more worrisome: seeking permission from federal authorities to prohibit the use of food stamps to buy soda and other sugared drinks, in order to reduce obesity among the poor.

Of course we'd love to see families using food stamps to buy only the healthiest foods—broccoli, whole grains, fish. For that matter, we'd love to see everyone eating such foods. But how many of us are paragons of nutritional virtue, never letting the salty crunch of a potato chip pass our lips?

Food stamps were created to ensure that everyone has at least enough food for basic nutrition. Taxpayers might reasonably prefer that the hard-earned money they contribute to the common good not be used for junk food; after all, obesity and poor nutrition are serious and costly societal problems. But the purpose of the program is to aid people in need, not dictate their every mouthful in ways that most Americans would never allow to be imposed on themselves. What next? Outlawing corn chips with one's salsa? Birthday candles stuck in a bowl of brown rice instead of a cake?

As well intended as Bloomberg's latest campaign is, it cannot help being arbitrary. If the purpose is to reduce obesity, there's little reason to allow the use of food stamps to buy fruit juices, some of which contain little nutrition yet more calories than a Coke, while banning sports drinks that have fewer than half as many calories.

Scientists are still determining the chief contributors to obesity in our society. Too much sugar, oversized portions, high fat and the dearth of vegetables and exercise all play a role. Bloomberg should stick to campaigns to educate people—the menu law, and perhaps more nutrition education for children and families through the New York City school system, which he oversees. Infantilizing food stamp recipients, and making lifestyle choices for them that aren't made for other Americans, is a demeaning and, most likely, ineffective way to ensure a healthier populace.

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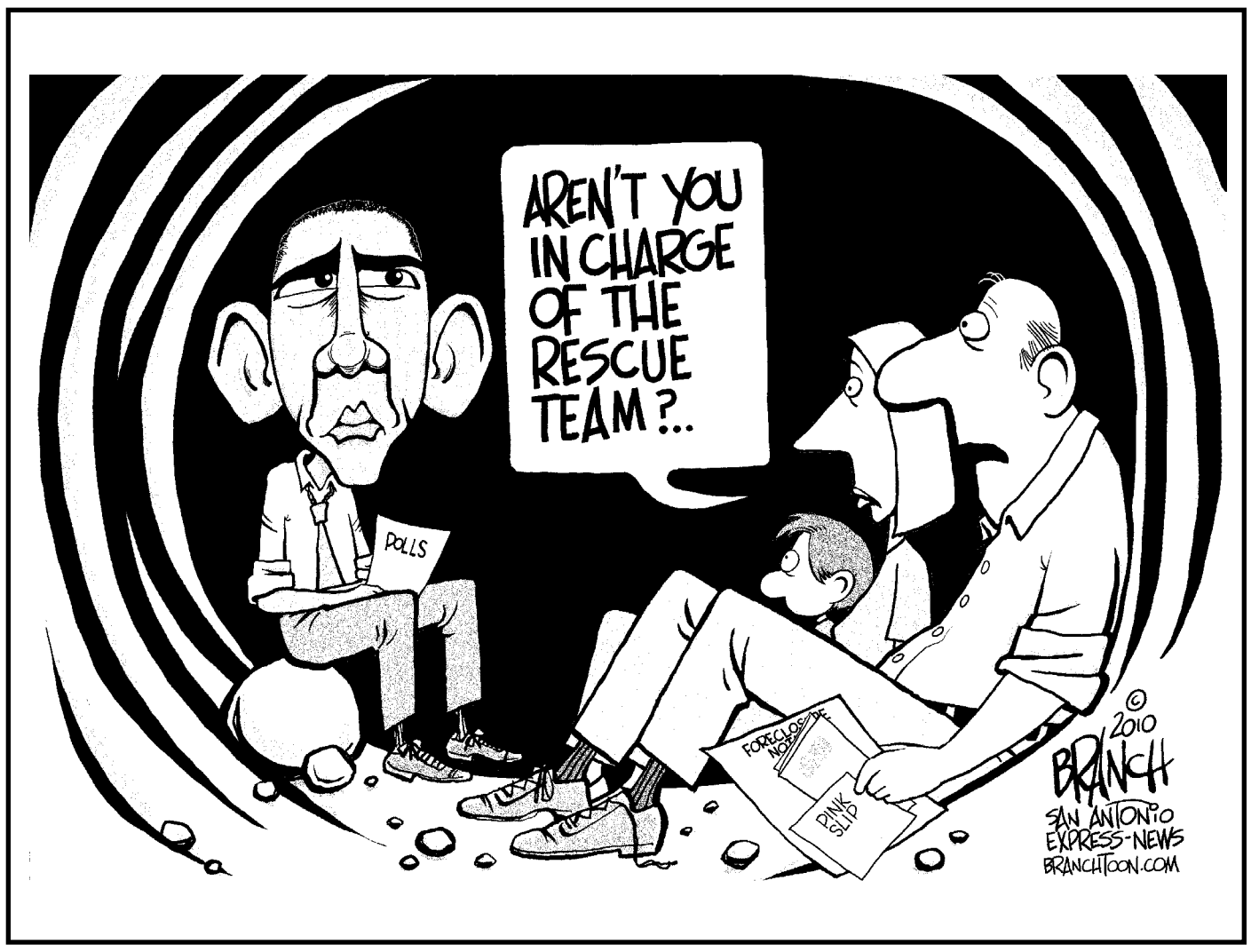


Minimum wage primer—Part II

IMMIGRATION FORUM

By MAYA KARA and BRUCE MAILMAN
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Maya Kara is a native of Hungary and comes to the practice of law by way of her interest in Asian history. Bruce Mailman is a native of Bakersfield, California and was a private investigator in California prior to becoming a lawyer. Both have lived and practiced law in the CNMI for over 20 years, Maya in government service and Bruce in private practice. They are married and are partners in the law firm of Mailman & Kara, LLC in Garapan, Saipan.

In our last column, we discussed minimum wage coverage under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). If a particular business ("enterprises coverage") or specific worker ("individual coverage") meets the criteria for FLSA coverage, employees must be paid the minimum wage. It is likely that a substantial majority of CNMI businesses will not fall under enterprise coverage because the business entity must gross at least $500,000 per year and have at least two employees. Local government, hospitals, schools, and nursing homes are automatically covered regardless of gross revenue. Individual workers are covered if they are engaged, in any way, with interstate or international commerce. This is a more difficult criterion to determine, and our prior column addressed this issue in more detail. Domestic workers are covered and must be paid the minimum wage although they are exempt from the time-and-a-half overtime requirement. This week we discuss enforcement, sanctions and record keeping.

ENFORCEMENT

The FLSA, including the minimum wage law, along with a laundry list of other federal laws aimed at protection of workers, is enforced by the Wage and Hour Division (WHD), Employment Standards Administration, U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL). USDOL maintains a very useful and comprehensive web site: www.dol.gov.

Enforcement of FLSA is carried out by WHD investigators stationed across the U.S., regardless of the employee's immigration status. WHD investigators conduct investigations and gather data on wages, hours, and other employment conditions or practices, in order to determine compliance with the law. Where violations are found, they also may recommend changes in employment practices to bring an employer into compliance.

The WHD conducts investigations for a number of reasons, all having to do with enforcement of the laws and assuring an employer's compliance. WHD does not typically disclose the reason for an investigation. There are two ways in which your business may come to the attention of WHD: (1) a complaint by a worker or (2) if you are part of a targeted industry.

COMPLAINT BY A WORKER

Many investigations are triggered by complaints from workers. A worker may file a complaint by contacting the nearest WHD office either by telephone or in person. Contact information for the Saipan office of WHD is found at the end of this article. All complaints are confidential; WHD cannot disclose the name of the worker and the nature of the complaint or whether a complaint exists. It is a violation to fire or in any other manner discriminate against an employee for filing a complaint or for participating in a legal proceeding under FLSA.

TARGETED INDUSTRY

WHD selects certain types of businesses or industries for investigation. The WHD targets low-wage industries, for example, because of high rates of violations or egregious violations, the employment of vulnerable workers, or rapid changes in an industry such as growth or decline. Occasionally, a number of businesses in a specific geographic area will be examined. The objective of targeted investigations is to improve compliance with the laws in those businesses, industries, or localities. Regardless of the particular reason that prompted the investigation, all investigations are conducted in accordance with established policies and procedures.

INVESTIGATION PROCEDURES

Section 11(a) of the FLSA authorizes representatives of the Department of Labor to investigate and gather data concerning wages, hours, and other employment practices; enter and inspect an employer's premises and records; and question employees to determine whether any person has violated any provision of the FLSA.

The WHD investigator will identify himself/herself and present official credentials. The investigator will explain the investigation process and the types of records required during the review.

An investigation consists of the following steps:

■ Examination of records to determine which laws or exemp-

See WAGE on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Working for our *man'amko* and all on Social Security

By GREGORIO KILILI C. SABLAN
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan is a member of the U.S. House of Representatives

On Friday, the Social Security Administration announced there would be no cost-of-living increase in 2011 for those who receive Social Security benefits. I expected this would happen, which is why in July I signed on as an original co-sponsor to the Seniors Protection Act. The bill provides an automatic $250 payment to recipients of Social Security, SSI, and veterans disability compensation or pension benefits to make up for the lack of a cost-of-living increase.

Both the Speaker of the House and the Senate President have made a commitment to schedule a vote on the Seniors Protection Act, H.R. 5987, when we return to work in Congress in November. And the White House announced Friday President Obama is also in support. Republicans in Washington oppose the payment, but I am hopeful that we will get it passed and those on Social Security will get their check.

Last year also, there was no cost-of-living increase. So, one of my first votes representing the people of the Northern Mariana Islands in Congress was for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, which included a $250 payment for those on Social Security and disabled veterans. A total of 2,570 people in the Northern Marianas received a check to help them through these tough times. The program pumped $642,420 into our local economy.

But there is a larger concern. Most of our seniors on Social Security would say that their cost of living has gone up over the last two years. Seniors face costs for medical care and prescription drugs that simply are not accounted for in the national Consumer Price Index that is used to decide on the annual cost-of-living adjustment.

That's why I am also a co-sponsor of H.R. 2365, the Consumer Price Index for Elderly Consumers (CPIEC) Act. This measure requires the U.S. Department of Labor to prepare a separate Consumer Price Index for those age 62 and over, who may have expenses that are not captured in the regular Consumer Price Index. The bill also requires the new CPIEC to be used in the computation of cost-of-living increases for Social Security and Medicare benefits.

There are about 2,500 Social Security recipients in the Northern Mariana Islands and the number is growing. Some 1,500 are retirees, widows, and widowers, who are mostly elderly. The rest are disabled workers and children. Altogether, Social Security payments to these individuals exceed $15 million each year; and most of that money goes into our local economy.

We have to make sure that the Social Security system continues to provide the appropriate level of benefits to those who earned and need this help. And we have to make sure that efforts to privatize or otherwise dismantle the Social Security system are blocked in Congress.

Letter to the Editor

For the common good

Despite what the other congressional candidates may say, Gregorio Kilili Sablan has clearly demonstrated that he works well with the federal government, that he does what is best for all the citizens of the CNMI, and that his efforts have infused a large amount of federal monies into our bankrupt economy.

He has accomplished this with integrity, honesty, and transparency. While the kind citizens of the CNMI are staggering under a collapsing economy in large part created by our political leaders, Kilili has been doing something very positive in support of the islands. It makes sense to have someone in Washington who has a proven track record of establishing close ties with the feds, as opposed to others who have painfully demonstrated a desire to keep the feds at bay.

Federal monies are keeping our economy afloat. Does it make any reasonable sense to have someone in Washington who works hard at opposing the feds; or someone without current experience in Washington? Even if a candidate has previously worked in Washington, they are unlikely up-to-speed with current political tides.

As an independent Kilili need not bend to the wishes of a particular party, especially when the party's agenda may very well be adverse to what is best for all of the people. It is certainly clear to most citizens that the current ruling party has their own agenda and that agenda benefits only a very few. Kilili can make the choices which will benefit the common good. While the governor openly snubs Kilili and attempts to discredit him, Kilili has clearly shown that he can stand on his own two feet and work well with the feds, doing more in two years to benefit the economy than all five years of the current ruling party. And he does this with a very real concern for the best interests of the CNMI.

Kilili has the experience of working in Washington. He works tirelessly for the people of the CNMI. He has demonstrated that his hard work pays off by securing much-needed financial support from the feds. And he has performed with integrity. Now is not the time to change from a winner to a candidate beholden to the wishes and agenda of a particular party. The CNMI's financial future largely rests on what happens in Washington over the next couple of years. Go out and vote this Nov. 2 for a party's influence or a family name, but for the candidate who will most benefit the entire CNMI.

Bill Weiss
Via email

WAGE

From Page 10

tions apply. These records include, for example, those showing the employer's annual dollar volume of business transactions, involvement in interstate commerce, and work on government contracts. **Information from an employer's records will not be revealed to unauthorized persons.**

- Examination of payroll and time records, and taking notes or making transcriptions or photocopies essential to the investigation.

- Interviews with certain employees in private. The purpose of these interviews is to verify the employer's payroll and time records, to identify workers' particular duties in sufficient detail to decide which exemptions apply, if any, and to confirm that minors are legally employed. Interviews are normally conducted on the employer's premises. In some instances, present and former employees may be interviewed at their homes or by mail or telephone.

- When all the fact-finding steps have been completed, the investigator will ask to meet with the employer and/or a representative of the firm who has authority to reach decisions and commit the employer to corrective actions if violations have occurred. The employer will be told whether violations have occurred and, if so, what they are and how to correct them. If back wages are owed to employees because of minimum wage or overtime violations, the investigator will request payment of back wages and may ask the employer to compute the amounts due.

Employers may be represented by their accountants or attorneys at any point during this process. When the investigator has advised the employer of his/her findings, the employer or representative may present additional facts for consideration if violations were disclosed.

SANCTIONS

Willful violations may be prosecuted criminally and the violator fined up to $10,000. A second conviction may result in imprisonment.

Employers who violate the child labor provisions of the FLSA are subject to a civil money penalty of up to $11,000 for each employee who was the subject of a violation. These penalties may be increased up to $50,000 for each violation that caused the death or serious injury of any minor employee, and may be doubled, up to $100,000, when the violation was determined to be willful or repeated.

Employers who willfully or repeatedly violate the minimum wage or overtime pay requirements are subject to a civil money penalty of up to $1,100 for each such violation.

Recovery of Back Wages:

Listed below are methods which FLSA provides for recovering unpaid minimum and/or overtime wages.

1. WHD may supervise payment of back wages.
2. The Secretary of Labor may bring suit for back wages and an equal amount as liquidated damages.
3. An employee may file a private suit for back pay and an equal amount as liquidated damages, plus attorney's fees and court costs.
4. The Secretary of Labor may obtain an injunction to restrain any person from violating FLSA, including the unlawful withholding of proper minimum wage and overtime pay.

An employee may not bring suit if he or she has accepted back wages under the supervision of WHD or if the Secretary of Labor has already filed suit to recover the wages.

A 2-year statute of limitations applies to the recovery of back pay, except in the case of willful violation, in which case a 3-year statute applies.

RECORD KEEPING

The FLSA requires employers to keep records on wages, hours, and other items, as specified in Department of Labor recordkeeping regulations. Most of the information is of the kind generally maintained by employers in ordinary business practice and in compliance with other laws and regulations. The records do not have to be kept in any particular form and time clocks need not be used. With respect to an employee subject to the minimum wage provisions or both the minimum wage and overtime pay provisions, the following records must be kept:

1. personal information, including employee's name, home address, occupation, sex, and birth date if under 19 years of age;
2. hour and day when workweek begins;
3. total hours worked each workday and each workweek;
4. total daily or weekly straight-time earnings;
5. regular hourly pay rate for any week when overtime is worked;
6. total overtime pay for the workweek;
7. deductions from or additions to wages;
8. total wages paid each pay period; and
9. date of payment and pay period covered.

Records required for exempt employees differ from those for nonexempt workers. Special information is required for homeworkers, for employees working under uncommon pay arrangements, for employees to whom lodging or other facilities are furnished, and for employees receiving remedial education.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The WHD does not provide advisory opinions. If you contact WHD with a specific problem, they will not tell you what to do; instead, they will refer you to general sources of information such as what is found on their website and fact sheets. The information in this and the previous column on minimum wage is only a brief overview. If you have specific questions, please consult a qualified attorney or:

- Visit the WHD homepage at: www.dol.gov/whd
- Call the WHD toll-free information and helpline at 1-866-4US-WAGE (1-866-487-9243)
- Use the DOL interactive advisor system - *ELAWS (E*mployment *L*aws *A*ssistance for *W*orkers and *S*mall Businesses) at: www.dol.gov/elaws
- Call or visit the nearest Wage and Hour Division Office. The WHD office in Saipan is located at Marina Heights II, Suite 205, Puerto Rico; telephone number 233-0740.

The information contained in this column is intended as general information only, and not as individual legal advice. Readers should obtain professional legal advice before taking action with respect to their individual situations. Readers may submit questions regarding federalization or immigration issues to the authors by email to lexmarianas@pticom.com. Readers may also e-mail written questions through the Saipan Tribune at editor@saipantribune.com.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Light and variable winds.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Light and variable winds.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼76°	▲87° ▼76°	▲87° ▼76°	▲87° ▼76°	▲87° ▼76°

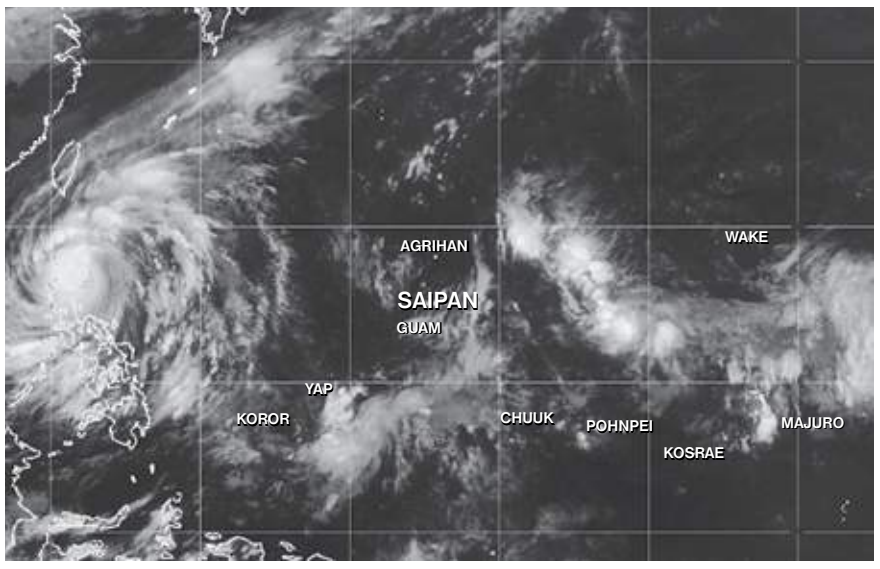
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲85	▼78
Palau	Mostly Cloudy	▲86	▼77
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼76
Chuuk	Mostly Cloudy	▲84	▼77
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	▲88	▼72
Kosrae	Mostly Sunny	▲89	▼75
Majuro	Rain	▲84	▼78

Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲59	▼54
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲63	▼44
Hong Kong	Mostly Cloudy	▲83	▼68
Honolulu	Sunny	▲84	▼73
London	Mostly Sunny	▲52	▼38
Los Angeles	Thundershowers	▲65	▼57
Manila	Thundershowers	▲85	▼77
Melbourne	Sunny	▲70	▼44
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼69
New York	Showers	▲56	▼45
Osaka	Showers	▲71	▼63
Paris	Showers	▲54	▼43
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲74	▼62
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲71	▼51
Salem	Sunny	▲70	▼42
San Francisco	Sunny	▲72	▼57
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲66	▼52
Tokyo	Showers	▲68	▼64
Washington, DC	Showers	▲61	▼53

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2010
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Super Typhoon Megi (15W) is centered northeast of Manila at 18N125E. Megi has maximum sustained winds of 180 mph and is moving west-southwest at 13 mph. Converging winds east and southeast of Megi are generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms between 4N and 25N from 130E to 135E including just west of Koror. For more information on Typhoon Megi, refer to JTWC bulletins under WMO header WTPN31 PGTW. A surface trough stretches southwestward from west of Wake Island at 18N159E through a weak circulation centered at 16N156E to end at another circulation centered southeast of Yap at 5N142E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are located west of Wake Island between 13N and 20N from 156E to 165E and south of the Marianas within 180 miles of a line from 2N138E to 9N148E. Another surface trough extends east-northeastward from a circulation centered near Kwajalein at 8N166E to beyond 14N180. Scattered showers are found over the Marshall Islands between 5N and 12N from 165E to 178E. An upper-level low centered north of the Marianas near 21N146E is triggering a few thunderstorms between 18N and 25N from 141E to 152E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

4:55 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.5 Feet
11:13 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.5 Feet
5:31 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:09 AM	5:55 PM
Wednesday	6:10 AM	5:54 PM
Thursday	6:10 AM	5:53 PM
Friday	6:10 AM	5:53 PM
Saturday	6:10 AM	5:52 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	3:20 PM	2:51 AM
Wednesday	3:55 PM	3:37 AM
Thursday	4:31 PM	4:23 AM
Friday	5:08 PM	5:11 AM
Saturday	5:48 PM	6:00 AM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 13, 2010

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM

CO9317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily
CO9313	7:55am	8:45am	3, 6
CO9313	8:30am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
CO9601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
CO9603	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
CO9605	6:20pm	7:10pm	Daily
CO9599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:00am	8:35am	Daily
DL285	6:40am	9:15am	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ606	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ604/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN
C09316/893	2:45am	9:00am	3, 6 via GUM-Palau
OZ604/701	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
DL287/173	6:00am	10:55pm	Daily via NRT
C09603/933	3:05pm	8:40pm	Daily via GUM
C09599/PR111	9:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG

OZ604/721	2:20am	11:45am	1 via ICN
OZ604/721	2:50am	11:45am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09603/909	3:05pm	9:25pm	1, 5 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM-SAIPAN

C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09596	6:35am	7:25am	3, 6
C09596	7:00am	7:50am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09600	10:05am	10:55am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily
DL286	3:50pm	8:25pm	Daily
DL288	8:40pm	1:15am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ605	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ704/605	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
DL172/173	7:50am	1:10am+1	Daily via NRT
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C0892/9316	4:15pm	3:35am+1	3, 6 via GUM-Palau
PR110/C0596	10:00pm	7:25am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	Daily via GUM

HONG KONG-SAIPAN

OZ724/605	12:30am	2:30pm	2 ,4 ,6, 7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C0910/9596	10:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

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- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
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Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily
FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

Saipan Southern celebrates Teen Read Week™

Saipan Southern High School will celebrate Teen Read Week™ 2010 from Oct. 17 to 23, with special events and programs aimed at encouraging area teens to read for the fun of it. Thousands of libraries, schools, and bookstore across the country will hold similar events centered on this year's theme, Books with Beat @ your library®, which encourages teens to read a variety of materials, including poetry, audio books, books about music, and more.

Teen Read Week is the national adolescent literacy initiative of the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA), the fastest-growing division of the American Library Association.

"Teens have more activities to fill their free time than ever—web videos, social networking sites, video games, afterschool activities, athletics—and increasingly high expectations in the classroom," said Sudi Napalan, SSHS librarian. "It's important that we show them that reading is something that's fun and relaxing that they can do for free. And that reading for fun can translate into better performance at school."

In addition, Napalan hopes to show parents and other concerned community members what the library can offer by hosting special programs and events during Teen Read Week. Here are the school and library events for Saipan Southern High School:

■ **2010 Reading Challenge**. A school wide reading activity that encourages students, teachers and staff to read regularly. Challengers will read 150-page book from the school library and complete an online form. The challenge will run from Oct. 1 to Dec. 21 with the finale of shaving Napalan's head on Dec. 23, when all the challengers complete the task.

■ **Teen Read Week Read-aloud and Book Talk**. Students, teachers and concerned community members will share about their favorite books, tips and advice on reading to encourage students. Presentations will be help from Oct. 18 to 23 during lunchtime at the school library.

■ **Parent Literacy Night**. Teachers will share their expertise on reading with the children on Oct. 22, 2010 at 6pm in the school cafeteria. All parents are invited.

■ **Motheread/Fatheread Program**. A parent training to assist in developing a good reading bond between a parent and a child. Interested community members are encouraged to contact Napalan for schedule.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Teen Read Week™ 2010 will be celebrated at Saipan Southern High School from Oct. 17 to 23.

"Many families have learned to make do with less as a result of the economy and have flocked to the library," Napalan said. "Teen Read Week is a great time to make sure teens and their families know about all the free services the library can offer them and to reach out to teens who aren't regular users and encourage them to come see what they can find here."

Parents of teens are encouraged to celebrate Teen Read Week at home, as well. Napalan offers these ideas:

■ Visit the public or school library with your teen to attend a program or to check out books.

■ Set aside time each night for the family to read.

■ Give books or magazine subscriptions to your teen as a gift or reward.

■ Share your favorite book with your teen.

■ Go online with your teen to learn about new books or authors. A good place to start is YALSA's Booklists and Book Awards page, www.ala.org/yalsa/booklists.

■ Join a book discussion group at the school or public library.

Teen Read Week is held annually during the third week of October. An updated sponsors and supporting organizations list can be found at the Web site, www.ala.org/teenread. For more information, visit Saipan Southern High School Library Facebook. ***(PR)***

WHAT THEY SAY:

I am 17 years old and a senior student at Saipan Southern High School. I would like to express my opinion based on the importance of a school library at which many do not realize. One of the many roles of every school library is to plan and organize learning programs that will equip students with the necessary skills and information to succeed in class.

In fact, my school library has done a tremendous job in implementing such programs. We enjoyed the Reading Rave Program and Books Across the Waters Program. These programs have allowed students of our school and members of the Book Club to communicate with students from the mainland and discussed books of our interest using technology through SSHS Library social networking site and blog. This was made possible by our school librarian, Mrs. Sudi Napalan and her library technician, Mrs. Dorsha Guinto.

They have provided excellent services to the students who use the library—to do research, study, find books for our reading enjoyment. Mrs. Napalan, also the Book Club Advisor, has organized numerous activities that are fun and exciting such as the Book-Movie Tie-ins field trips, Stamping for Troops and 2010 Reading Challenge.

One of the biggest events of the year is Teen Read Week. For 2010-2011, Teen Read Week will be from Oct. 18 to 22, 2010. This will be another great opportunity to share our thoughts about teen reading to our Saipan Mayor and other officials at the Teen Read Week Proclamation.

Throughout this week, we will observe 15-minutes of reading for fun during our 4th period class. We will also excited to hear our teachers and fellow students do Booktalks and Read-aloud during lunch at our library. I am thrilled that community members like Tina Sablan and Congressman Kilili Sablan will be coming this week to read for our teens this week.

Teen Read Week is an exciting event any teen should not miss in their school library. I hope other students are having a lively celebration in their school library. Happy Teen Read Week!

Kaelani Demapan
SSHS Book Club vice president

■ ■ ■ ■

I am 16 years old and I wanted to make sure everyone knew about something truly important in our school and community: the library. Students go there for help with homework or to do research for school projects. However, the library has much more to offer students than just that: they have cool programs and hosts great events such as Teen Read Week, Book Club, 2010 Reading Challenge and Stamping. They're great opportunities to promote student involvement and it's all free! Magazines, newspapers, manga, and novels are not even half of what the library provides.

My favorite book from the library is "How to Ruin" series by Simone Elkeles. Even if you are not an accustomed reader, I guarantee if you look hard enough or ask our librarians for help you will find something good. The library is the perfect place to go when you are trying to save money and use your time wisely.

My library also has available computers for all the students to use for homework, projects, printing, and keeping in touch with friends via email. It's a further opportunity for students to take advantages of the resources in the library for good use.

Oct. 17 to 23 is Teen Read Week. I would like to encourage other teens who do not use the library that they should definitely check it out. There are people there who can assist you and help you get your questions answered. Furthermore, parents should check the library! They have a lot to offer the whole family!

Our librarian and book club advisor, Sudi Napalan, says that the theme for Teen Read Week is "read for the fun of it." Joining book club has thought me the importance of literacy. Additionally, I enjoy the book talks within our club. I think reading can be good when you have time to spare, or you just want to relax. I enjoy the atmosphere of our library and fond of receiving a great variety of books any time.

So, do not forget to read a book for Teen Read Week and check out the library. You will see teens getting work done and having a good time.

Carmen Borja
SSHS Book Club secretary

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

SSHS Book Club treasurer Carmen Borja said students go to the library for help with homework or to do research for school projects.

Ret. Army col. buried with full military honors

A retired Army colonel was given a burial with full military honors last Thursday.

Leonard Sine, who was also part of the Armed Forces Committee of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, received full military honors on his internment service on Oct. 14

The CNMI community paid tribute to the 93-year-old veteran who passed away from an illness at the Commonwealth Health Center on Oct. 3.

Sine was survived by Gloria, his wife for 34 years.

A mass officiated by Fr. Celso G. Magbanua Jr. was offered for Sine at the Kristo Rai Church in Garapan at 10am.

The internment service followed at the CNMI Veterans Cemetery in Marpi. ***(Clarissa V. David)***

An American flag is draped over the casket of Ret. Army Col. Leonard Sine after the 10am mass at Kristo Rai Church last Oct. 14. The 93-year old veteran passed away at the Commonwealth Health Center on Oct. 3 and was given full military honors at the CNMI Veterans Cemetery in Marpi.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Business

'CDA should evolve to more than a lending agency'

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Development Authority must determine a vision for the agency and the community and not just become a money-lending institution.

"Before it gives out loans to businesses and the government, CDA must figure out first a vision for the agency and its role in the economic development of the Commonwealth," loan manager Oscar Camacho said during Dialogue on CDA Matters on Oct. 15.

Dialogue on CDA Matters, the stakeholders meeting organized by the agency, was held at the American Memorial Park Theatre Hall.

The stakeholders meeting drew the participation of CDA clients who have availed of its various programs, private business owners, and others who have interest in the economic development of the CNMI.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Commonwealth Development Authority executive director Manuel Sablan answers questions from the audience during the stakeholders meeting dubbed Dialogue on CDA Matters last Oct. 15 at the American Memorial Park Theatre Hall. The meeting was streamed live to Rota and Tinian via video teleconference.

Dialogue on CDA Matters is the second meeting following the agency's formulation of a Strategic Plan in 2007.

The meeting was streamed live to Tinian and Rota residents through video teleconference to the Northern Marianas College campuses on the two islands.

During his presentation, Camacho said the agency cannot continue to become just a lending institution on the island.

Camacho said CDA's total assets are currently worth $26.7 million, not including the Development Banking Division and the Northern Marianas Housing Corp.

It has a revolving loan fund of $2.3 million, he added.

The loan manager said CDA needs to revitalize and reposition itself by developing a preliminary vision of what the CNMI economy should be like years from now.

"If we don't know where we're going, how are we going to get there?" he asked.

Camacho said among the agency's goals is to bring its existing loan portfolio in order and increase its collections through the Debt Relief Program, restructuring of loans, and title deeds in lieu of foreclosures to increase the agency's performing loans.

"We need to increase our collections to increase the revolving fund and to revitalize CDA," he said.

He said the agency intends to reinforce alliances and form new ones to leverage the Commonwealth's resources.

The loan manager said CDA also aims to improve internal processes and systems for handling loans.

Formerly known as the Economic Development Loan Fund, CDA is an autonomous public agency established in 1985 to provide funding for new and ongoing development projects in the Commonwealth through its various loan programs.

CDA also provides technical assistance to these businesses to ensure that clients have the knowledge and skills necessary to deal with radical changes in the market.

Pa. man to give $1K for each jobless worker hired

NEWTOWN, Pa. (AP)—A suburban Philadelphia philanthropist who believes charity is a powerful incentive thinks he can help get Americans back to work one donation at a time.

Gene Epstein, 71, is promoting a $250,000 effort called Hire Just One, with plans to make $1,000 donations to charity in the name of businesses that hire an unemployed person and keep the worker on the payroll for at least six months.

Epstein, who amassed a personal fortune through car sales and real estate investments, has set aside his money for the first 250 hires—and thinks thousands more jobs could be created if others took on his idea, too.

"It's an encouragement to businesses to not wait," said Epstein, who thinks the incentive may be just enough to get small businesses over the hump to make a hire in tough economic times. "This becomes like an incredible stimulus program."

The idea came to Epstein at his sprawling home in suburban Bucks County last month. He said he hopes his program will encourage businesses in the region and beyond to make hundreds of thousands of new hires they wouldn't have otherwise made.

More than 100 businesses have expressed interest, Epstein said, but for the most part he plans to wait until the new employees have been on the payrolls for six months before he makes the donations. Only time will tell how effective the incentive may be.

Epstein, known for matching gifts for organ donations and other charitable programs, previously promoted a novel way to increase voluntary organ donor signups: $10,000 insurance payouts to each donor's eventual beneficiary. He and his wife, Marlene, have a charitable fund that contributes to the Jewish National Fund, the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center and other causes.

"They are going to see that they need more employees," said Epstein, a registered Republican who has donated money to both political parties. He said he believes his program is a good way to address unemployment without the need for government intervention.

AP

In this Oct. 7, 2010 photo, philanthropist Gene Epstein poses in front of a van advertising his Hire Just One initiative, in Newtown, Pa.

One expert on small businesses said a charitable incentive might prove more effective at spurring discussion in the boardroom than in translating into new hires.

"The upside is small enough that it probably is going to have more effect in bringing the issue up than it is in actually getting people to hire people," said Lawrence Gelburd, a lecturer at The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania who teaches about entrepreneurship and works with small businesses. "That's a pretty tough sell."

When businesses submit qualifying paperwork, Epstein expects to donate to groups like the American Red Cross, the food program Philabundance, organ donor efforts and others. Despite his requirement that businesses keep workers on the payroll at least six months first, Epstein said he recently made an exception and sent $3,200 from the fund to go toward the Flight 93 memorial in western Pennsylvania.

Epstein said he has been choosing most of the charities that will get donations so far, but he is not against businesses choosing the charity themselves, as long as the charity is legitimate.

Several participating businesses said hearing about Epstein's philanthropic promise helped to push them over the hump and move toward making new hires.

Sports fans ensnared in Cablevision, Fox rate duel

NEW YORK (AP)—For the fourth time this year, Cablevision's 3 million subscribers in New York and Philadelphia are at the mercy of one of its disputes with networks, and caught in the middle are sports fans who missed playoff baseball and Sunday's New York Giants game.

Negotiators for Cablevision and Fox parent News Corp. failed to reach an agreement over rates Sunday, more than a day after their deal expired amid negotiations for a new one. Fox pulled its channels and programming while the two sides discuss how much Cablevision will pay to carry them.

The two sides will meet again Monday, Fox spokesman Scott Grogin said. "House," the drama that's among Fox's highest-rated shows, airs Monday night at 8 p.m. EDT.

Cablevision spokesman Charles Schueler reiterated that arbitration would be "the fastest and fairest way to return Fox programming to Cablevision customers."

Fox 5 and My9 in New York and Fox29 in Philadelphia were dark, as well as cable channels Fox Business Network, NatGeo Wild and Fox Deportes.

"This is ridiculous!" said Kevin Ryan, owner of Denny's Bar, a family business in Brooklyn's Kensington neighborhood. "I'm relying on people to come in who are Giants fans—and they're walking out, even though I pay for the football package."

BUSINESS BRIEFS

French gov't vows to end efforts to block fuel

PARIS (AP)—President Nicolas Sarkozy was holding firm Sunday on his plan to raise France's retirement age to 62 with the government vowing to squelch efforts to block fuel after strikes fanned fears of a shortage. Strikers have blockaded a dozen French refineries and numerous oil depots in the last week as part of widespread protests of the government's plan to end the near-sacred right to retire at 60, leading to a run on gas stations by motorists and concerns about fuel shortages at the country's main airport. "I won't let the French economy suffer from a supply blockage," Prime Minister Francois Fillon said. "The right to strike isn't the right to stop access to a fuel depot. That's an illegal action," the prime minister said on the TF1 channel.

Top 400 charities see billions less in donations

WASHINGTON (AP)—A new ranking of the nation's 400 biggest charities shows donations dropped by 11 percent overall last year as the Great Recession ended—the worst decline in 20 years since the Chronicle of Philanthropy began keeping a tally. The Philanthropy 400 report to be released Monday shows such familiar names as the United Way and the Salvation Army, both based near Washington, continue to dominate the ranking, despite the 2009 declines. The survey accounts for $68.6 billion in charitable contributions. An earlier report by the Giving USA Foundation found overall charitable giving declined 3.6 percent last year. That report included giving to private foundations and to smaller charities, while the Chronicle's survey only includes top charities raising money from the public.

BHP, Rio Tinto ax $120B Australian joint venture

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP)—Rio Tinto PLC and BHP Billiton Ltd. have scrapped plans for a $120 billion iron ore joint venture in the remote Outback after antitrust regulators in Australia, Europe and Asia opposed it or demanded changes. The cancellation on Monday of the joint venture proposed in the Pilbara region of Western Australia state came as little surprise to markets, because problems with some regulators were already well known. In Australia, Rio Tinto was trading fractionally higher at Australian dollars 83.22 after the news broke, while BHP Billiton declined less than 1 percent at AU$41.47. BHP and Rio Tinto had hoped to save at least $10 billion by combining their operations in the Pilbara, a remote region rich in iron ore and other minerals but where mining companies spend many millions on rail, ports and other infrastructure.

Nation

Obama targets key groups in poll's homestretch

CLEVELAND (AP)—Heading into the homestretch of the midterm elections, President Barack Obama is targeting key Democratic constituencies as he tries to energize voters and build up Election Day turnout among his supporters.

The groups Obama is targeting mirror those that helped him win the White House: young people, African-Americans and women. A crucial element of the president's strategy in the two weeks before the Nov. 2 election is finding a way to get first-time voters from 2008 to head back to the polls even though Obama's name isn't on the ballot.

Obama isn't shying away from reality: The sputtering economy has created a tough political environment for Democratic candidates.

"When times are that difficult, elections are going to be difficult and understandably so," Obama said Sunday while speaking at a fundraiser for Ohio Gov. Ted Strickland at a private home outside Cleveland.

Obama was joined at the fundraiser by first lady Michelle Obama. From Cleveland, the Obamas were to travel to Columbus to headline a large nighttime rally on the campus of Ohio State University.

The president and first lady have campaigned individually for Democratic candidates in the final weeks before the midterms, but Sunday marked the first time the Obamas had campaigned together since the presidential election.

AP

With only two weeks till critical midterm elections, President Barack Obama and first lady Michelle Obama muster support for Democratic candidates during a rally at Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio, Sunday, Oct. 17, 2010.

Sunday's rally at Ohio State is one of five the president was scheduled to attend ahead of Election Day, all designed to remind the Democratic base of the enthusiasm Obama inspired during his presidential campaign.

The five rallies are all in states Obama won during his presidential bid, and all in states with competitive midterm races: Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, Ohio, California and Nevada. Though Democratic officials say the president is casting a wide net and trying to reach the whole of the Democratic party, some rallies do target specific constituencies.

In Madison, Wis., late last month, Obama targeted young voters at the University of Wisconsin. Officials hoped last week's rally in Philadelphia reached African-Americans, many of whom came to the polls for the first time in 2008 to support Obama. Democratic candidates like Pennsylvania Senate hopeful Joe Sestak need high turnout in urban areas like Philadelphia if they're to overcome stiff Republican opposition.

At an event Thursday in Seattle, Obama will focus on how the economic crisis has affected women. White House deputy communications director Jen Psaki said Obama will argue that women who may have benefited from administration initiatives like the small business lending program would suffer under Republican leadership.

Obama is also using backyard meetings and televised town halls, including one broadcast on MTV, BET and CMT last week.

White House officials insist the president's coast-to-coast campaigning is making a difference.

After nine years and Condit's fall, Chandra Levy trial begins

WASHINGTON (AP)—If one person is associated with the mysterious slaying of Washington intern Chandra Levy, it isn't the man who will soon be tried on charges he murdered her. It's former California congressman Gary Condit, whose political career imploded after he was romantically linked to the woman and became the No. 1 suspect.

Ingmar Guandique, an illegal immigrant from El Salvador, goes on trial Monday for Levy's 2001 killing. However, he's not even a blip on the national consciousness of the case, which dominated news coverage until the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks rendered it an afterthought.

While police no longer believe Condit had anything to do with Levy's death, his presence will continue to hang over the trial. Condit's spokesman, Bert Fields, said Condit expects to be called as a witness at Guandique's trial, though he has not been subpoenaed.

Fields said Condit will cooperate fully with authorities. But the ex-congressman, who is writing a book about his experience, will not comment on the trial until it ends.

Bill Miller, a spokesman for the prosecutors' office, declined comment on the case and whether Condit will be called as a witness, citing a gag order issued earlier this month.

Defense attorneys are also subject to the gag order. But when Guandique was charged in 2009 with Levy's murder, they criticized what they saw as a botched investigation. Guandique escaped scrutiny in large part because of the frenzy around Condit. The former congressman never admitted an affair but said he was friends with Levy, though the intern had told family members the two had a romantic relationship.

"This flawed investigation, characterized by the many mistakes and missteps of the Metropolitan Police Department and every federal agency that has attempted to solve this case, will not end with the simple issuance of an arrest warrant against Mr. Guandique," said the attorneys, Santha Sonenberg and Maria Hawilo.

At a pretrial hearing Thursday, Sonenberg said police were so desperate to get a confession from Guandique to bolster their case that in 2004 and 2005, police tried to establish a phony penpal relationship with Guandique while he was in prison serving a 10-year sentence, using the pseudonym "Maria Lopez." The ruse did not work.

"It goes to the sort of antics, the sort of shenanigans, the lengths to which they've gone to prosecute Mr. Guandique," Sonenberg said.

Then-U.S. Attorney Jeffrey Taylor has acknowledged the case lacked DNA or physical evidence linking Guandique to Levy. And Guandique never confessed to police—in fact, he passed a lie-detector test denying involvement in Levy's disappearance, though prosecutors now question the validity of that test.

But Taylor cited significant circumstantial evidence, including numerous confessions that Guandique purportedly made to other inmates. And Levy's body was found in a wooded section of the city's Rock Creek Park, where Guandique was convicted of assaulting two other young women in 2001.

Navajo closer than ever to electing woman leader

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. (AP)—Lynda Lovejoy walks past throngs of parade-goers in her traditional, crushed velvet dress and moccasins, her campaign button on the sleeve. Speaking through a microphone, she says she'll bring fresh perspective to the Navajo government if elected president.

Her supporters shout, "You go girl!"

Others at the parade in Window Rock clearly don't want to see her at the helm of the country's largest American Indian reservation. "I hope you lose," one man shouts, then covers his mouth and ducks into the crowd. Another woman declares support for Lovejoy's opponent: "We want Ben Shelly. Women belong in the kitchen."

No woman has served as Navajo president, although the matriarchal society has strong reverence for women as caretakers and heirs to everything from home site leases to sheep. When introducing themselves, Navajos start with their mother's clan name.

With Lovejoy garnering twice as many votes as any of the 10 men and a second woman in a recent primary, the Navajo Nation appears closer than ever to electing a woman as its leader. But that doesn't mean Lovejoy's candidacy is widely accepted as she and Shelly approach the Nov. 2 election.

The New Mexico state senator has been called an outsider who lacks experience in tribal government. More to the point, she's been told she'll ruin a tradition in which all previous top leaders have been men and that her presidency could portend an ominous future for the tribe. Some have even attributed damaging weather events to her quest for the leadership.

Still others have hope she'll bring attention to social justice issues and increase job opportunities for younger people on the reservation. Some ask why not a woman considering the tribe's struggles with men as leaders.

Sara Stevens, who works with domestic violence victims on the reservation, says perpetrators are running rampant, and women and children need help.

"She's a woman like the rest of us," said Stevens, of Crystal, N.M. "Hopefully that will pull at her heart strings."

Men long have been the leaders of Navajo people and traditionally consulted with women in the communities as equals. Navajos see each person as having female and male aspects that create balance.

Philmer Bluehouse, a traditional peacekeeper, said those who believe women can't be president likely are looking to a Navajo tale of a female who was given a leadership post but became angry and controlling.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Man charged with murder in Md. detective's death

BALTIMORE (AP)—A man was accused Sunday of fatally striking an off-duty Baltimore police detective in the head during a dispute over a parking space in a crowded nightlife district. Sian James, 25, was charged with first-degree murder in the Saturday night death of Det. Brian Stevenson. James fled the scene and was caught hours later at a nightclub, police spokesman Anthony Guglielmi said. Guglielmi said James had retained an attorney, but he did not know Sunday afternoon who the lawyer was. Stevenson, who would have turned 38 on Sunday, was out with a friend Saturday night celebrating his birthday and pulled into parking spot. James approached the officer after he got out of his vehicle and threw a stone or piece of concrete, hitting the detective in the head, Guglielmi said.

2 killed in Arizona tour bus crash

KINGMAN, Ariz. (AP)—A commercial tour bus carrying a dozen people drifted off an Arizona highway on Sunday and rolled several times, killing two people and injuring several others, authorities said. The crash happened around 8 a.m. near the community of Meadview on the southeastern side of the Lake Mead National Recreation Area, said Mohave County sheriff's spokeswoman Trish Carter. The bus was headed from Las Vegas to the western rim of the Grand Canyon. The 12 people on board included the driver, who suffered minor injuries and has been cooperating with investigators.

95-year-old NYC man gets medal for WWII rescue

NEW YORK (AP)—The U.S. government has recognized the World War II architect of a mission to rescue more than 500 U.S. bomber crew members shot down over Nazi-occupied Serbia. It was the largest air rescue of Americans behind enemy lines in any war. George Vujnovich (VOOY'-noh-veech) is credited with leading the so-called Halyard Mission in what was then Yugoslavia. The 95-year-old New York City man was awarded the Bronze Star in a ceremony Sunday at Manhattan's St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Cathedral. He received a standing ovation from a crowd of several hundred. He's long retired from his job as a salesman of aircraft parts.

Asia

Strong typhoon blows for RP; thousands flee

AP

Philippine National Police and volunteer rescue units practice search and rescue operation Sunday, Oct. 17, 2010 along Pinacanauan river in Ilagan township, Isabela province in northern Philippines in anticipation of typhoon "Megi" (local name "Juan") which is expected to hit the northern Philippine provinces including Isabela Monday.

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The strongest typhoon to threaten the Philippines in recent years menacingly roared toward the country's north Sunday, prompting thousands of villagers to flee to safety and sparking massive emergency preparations.

Typhoon Megi had sustained winds of 140 miles (225 kilometers) per hour and gusts of 162 mph (260 kph) by nightfall but could strengthen as it moves west at 14 mph (22 kph) over the Philippine Sea. Forecasters said it's expected to slam into Cagayan province Monday morning.

With its ferocious wind, Megi has become the strongest typhoon to threaten the country in four years, government forecasters say. A 2006 howler with 155-mph (250-kph) winds set off volcanic mudslides that buried entire villages, killing about 1,000 people.

Weather officials issued the highest of a four-tier public storm alert for Cagayan and nearby Isabela province, warning of pounding rains and fierce wind that could significantly damage agriculture, residential areas, power and communications. They urged all outdoor activities to be cancelled and advised one family member to stay awake overnight for any contingency.

Thousands of military reserve officers and volunteers were on stand by, along with helicopters, including six Chinooks that were committed by U.S. troops holding war exercises with Filipino soldiers near Manila, said Benito Ramos, a top disaster-response official.

Rescue boats and thousands of food packs have been pre-positioned near vulnerable areas, he said, adding that schools along the typhoon's path would be closed.

Trying to win Pakistani trust, 1 flight at a time

SWAT, Pakistan (AP)—The flood waters have mostly receded from the Swat Valley, leaving a vast swath of silt littered with the remains of houses, roads, and bridges.

Above it, there's the incongruous sight of lumbering U.S. Army Chinook helicopters, like twin-rotored flying trucks, ferrying refugees in one direction, and cement, rice and other relief supplies in the other.

Aboard this flight is U.S. Army Brigadier General Michael Nagata, second in command of the U.S. military mission to Pakistan.

"I tell my people, we are ruthlessly focused on being here for the people of Pakistan," said Nagata. He rejects any notion that U.S. aid relief was about boosting U.S. approval rating in Pakistan, which is somewhere in the 17 percent range.

The Chinooks—together with a fleet of smaller Black Hawks—could well be a visual symbol for the almost schizophrenic military and diplomatic relationship between the U.S. and Pakistan.

Here, U.S. pilots work closely and quietly with the Pakistani army on flood relief, in what is almost a model for cooperating with a host country instead of putting U.S. boots on the ground, at great cost in money and lives. Yet in recent weeks, U.S. pilots in armed helicopters have also strayed or fired into Pakistan's tribal territories, killing two Pakistani border guards while pursuing militants from Afghanistan. Pakistan shut its Torkham border crossing to U.S. truck shipments to Afghanistan for almost two weeks in retaliation, before opening it again.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Rescuers fear worst for 11 trapped Chinese miners

YUZHOU, China (AP)—Frantically working rescuers feared the 11 Chinese miners trapped by a deadly gas blast may have suffocated or been buried by coal dust, as loved ones kept a vigil Sunday and the death toll rose to 26 with five more bodies recovered. The Chinese mine drama unfolded as the world still was celebrating Chile's successful rescue of 33 miners trapped for more than two months. Chinese media had detailed coverage as the Chilean men emerged to cheers. Du Bo, deputy chief of the rescue headquarters, told the state-run Xinhua News Agency that hopes that the others were still alive after Saturday's early morning blast were slim.

Goat sacrifice fight spurs fatal stampede in India

PATNA, India (AP)—An argument over sacrificing goats during a Hindu festival triggered a stampede that killed 10 people Sunday in a packed temple in northern India, officials said. More than 40,000 people, many inebriated, had taken their goats to the Tildiha village temple in Bihar state to offer sacrifice and prayers to the goddess Durga on the last day of the Navratri festival. As the worshippers lined up before the butcher, a scuffle broke out and some people were trampled, Banka district spokesman Gupdeshwar Kumar said. "People were vying with each other to get their goats sacrificed first, and they had a verbal duel with the butcher," Kumar said.

Australian police probe Gitmo detainee book deal

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)—Australian police said Sunday that they are considering whether the first Guantanamo Bay detainee to plead guilty to a terrorism offense should be sued for any profits he makes from his autobiography. David Hicks, a 35-year-old ex-kangaroo skinner and Outback cowboy, was held in U.S. custody at the military detention center in Cuba for more than five years before striking a plea deal in 2007 that returned him home to Australia to serve a nine-month prison sentence. Under Australian law, criminals can be sued for money that a federal court determines is proceeds from their crimes, including indirect profits from book and movie deals.

World

Iraq's Allawi charges Iran destabilizing Mideast

BAGHDAD (AP)—The leader of the Iraqi bloc that came first in elections accused Iran on Sunday of trying to destabilize Iraq and manipulate the political process as he jeered at rival politicians seeking Tehran's blessing for forming the next government.

Ayad Allawi, a secular Shiite, narrowly won the most seats in the March 7 vote with strong Sunni backing but did not get nearly enough to control the government outright. That allowed his chief rival, Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, to sideline the Iraqiya political party that Allawi heads by forming a Shiite-dominated alliance similar to the current government and close to Iran.

"I won't be begging Iran to agree upon my nomination," Allawi told the Al-Arabiya satellite TV channel.

He added that Iran should get out of Iraqi politics and "not impose or support one faction over the other."

Allawi's remarks were a clear jab at al-Maliki, who heads to Iran on Monday as he scrambles for enough Shiite support to keep his job. There were also new indications that al-Maliki's efforts to enlist Sunni allies in the region are falling short. The king of neighboring Jordan pointedly avoided endorsing the Iraqi prime minister for a second term in a statement Sunday.

Allawi

The developments injected new doubt that Iraq's political mess will be resolved any time soon. It has been more than seven months since parliamentary elections that failed to produce a clear winner and the country is still without a government.

Allawi has threatened to boycott the next government if al-Maliki remains in office, although U.S. diplomats are trying to broker a detente that would give the Iraqiya leader some power and key ministry jobs if he backs down.

Al-Maliki recently clinched support from hardline Shiite political parties close to Iran. With that, and assuming he is backed as expected by a key Kurdish coalition, he will have enough allies to remain in office.

In a second television interviews aired Sunday, Allawi accused Iran of fomenting unrest in Iraq, Lebanon and among Palestinians. He said Mideast nations are "falling victim to ... terrorists who are definitely Iran-financed."

"We know that unfortunately, Iran is trying to wreak havoc on the region," Allawi said. "And definitely in Iraq, I can say categorically that Iran is trying even to bring about change to the political process according to their wishes and requirements," he told CNN's "Fareed Zakaria GPS."

With statehood, Palestine ready to end all claims

RAMALLAH, West Bank (AP)—The Palestinians are ready to end all historic claims against Israel once they establish their state in the lands Israel occupied in the 1967 Mideast War, Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas said Sunday, addressing a long-standing Israeli demand.

In an interview with Israel TV, Abbas also said negotiations with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu remain his preferred choice, but that he will consider other options if talks break down over Israel's continued settlement expansion.

Negotiations were relaunched by the Obama administration last month, but quickly faltered over Israel's refusal to extend a curb on Jewish settlement construction. Abbas says there's no point negotiating as long as settlements take over more land claimed by the Palestinians.

The Palestinians want to establish a state in the West Bank, Gaza and east Jerusalem, captured by Israel in 1967. Israel has withdrawn from Gaza, but about half a million Israelis have settled in the other war-won areas.

Netanyahu wants the Palestinians to recognize Israel as a Jewish state, and said earlier this week he might extend a curb on settlement construction in exchange for such recognition. A 10-month-old moratorium on West Bank housing starts expired in late September, and Abbas has said he will not return to negotiations without an extension.

The Palestinians argue that it's not up to them to determine the nature of the state of Israel. Abbas noted that Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization recognized each other in 1993, saying this should be sufficient. Abbas heads the PLO.

However, in an apparent attempt to reach out to Israeli public opinion, he said that once the Palestinians have established their state in the 1967 borders, "there is another important thing to end, the conflict, and we are ready for that, to end the historic demands."

He did not elaborate on specifically which demands he was relinquishing, but traditionally Palestinians have demanded the right of Palestinian refugees to return to their homelands in Israeli territory.

WORLD BRIEFS

Merkel: German multiculturalism 'utterly failed'

BERLIN (AP)—Chancellor Angela Merkel's declaration that Germany's attempts to build a multicultural society had "utterly failed" is feeding a growing debate over how to deal with the millions of foreigners who call the country home. Merkel told a meeting of young members of her conservative Christian Democratic Union that while immigrants are welcome in Germany, they must learn the language and accept the country's cultural norms—sounding a note heard increasingly across Europe as it battles an economic slump and worries about homegrown terrorism. "This multicultural approach, saying that we simply live side by side and live happily with each other has failed. Utterly failed," Merkel said.

Violence erupts at Haiti prison, 3 inmates killed

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)—Two inmates were shot to death trying to escape from the roof of Haiti's quake-damaged national penitentiary and a third was trampled to death inside during a prison riot Sunday, authorities said. U.N. police spokesman Jean-Francois Vezina said at least 100 U.N. police were inside Haiti's biggest prison when the uprising occurred. Inmates briefly held seven foreigners hostages—three U.N. police, two U.N. corrections officials and two unidentified visitors touring the facility—before releasing them, some with minor injuries, he said.

Court: Ex-Nigerian leader can be extradited to UK

LAGOS, Nigeria (AP)—Officials say a Dubai court has ruled that a former Nigerian governor can be extradited to the United Kingdom over embezzlement charges. A Nigerian government spokesman says a court found cause to honor an extradition request for former Delta state Gov. James Ibori, a prominent politician in the ruling People's Democratic Party. Authorities have said Ibori faces charges over stealing $292 million in state funds while in office. U.K. investigators claimed Ibori put much of the money in English banks. Femi Babafemi, a spokesman for Nigeria's Economic and Financial Crimes Commission, said Sunday that Ibori has appealed the decision to Dubai's highest court.

Focus

AP

This undated file picture provided by NASA shows the U.S. Army's Honest John Missile. Civilian researchers say the U.S. military by 1967 had about 2,600 nuclear warheads on Honest Johns, in artillery shells and in other weapons in South Korea and nearby Okinawa. Sixty years after the start of the Korean War, recently released declassified documents have helped fill in the history of U.S. nuclear threats against North Korea over the decades.

US often weighed North Korea 'nuke option'

By CHARLES J. HANLEY and RANDY HERSCHAFT
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITERS

NEW YORK (AP)—From the 1950s Pentagon to today's Obama administration, the United States has repeatedly pondered, planned and threatened use of nuclear weapons against North Korea, according to declassified and other U.S. government documents released in this 60th-anniversary year of the Korean War.

Air Force bombers flew nuclear rehearsal runs over North Korea's capital during the war. The U.S. military services later vied for the lead role in any "atomic delivery" over North Korea. In the late 1960s, nuclear-armed U.S. warplanes stood by in South Korea on 15-minute alert to strike the north.

Just this past April, issuing a U.S. Nuclear Posture Review, Defense Secretary Robert Gates said "all options are on the table" for dealing with Pyongyang—meaning U.S. nuclear strikes were not ruled out.

The stream of new revelations about U.S. nuclear planning further fills in a picture of what North Korea calls "the increasing nuclear threat of the U.S.," which it cites as the reason it developed its own atom-bomb program— as a deterrent.

"This is the lesson we have drawn," North Korea's vice foreign minister, Pak Kil Yon, told the U.N. General Assembly in New York on Sept. 29.

The new information is contained in Korean War documents released by the CIA to mark this June's anniversary of the start of the conflict; another declassified package obtained by Washington's private National Security Archive research group under the Freedom of Information Act; and additional documents, also once top-secret and found at the U.S. National Archives, provided to The Associated Press by intelligence historian and author Matthew Aid.

Expert observers are speculating that North Korea, which conducted nuclear tests in 2006 and 2009, may soon stage another. Pyongyang's program "has now reached an extremely dangerous level," Kim Tae-hyo, a South Korean government security adviser, said in comments published Wednesday in Seoul.

In a report on global nuclear threats, analysts at Washington's Stimson Center identify six overt warnings by high-ranking American officials since 1976 that the U.S. would resort to nuclear weapons against North Korea if warranted. But U.S. threats go back more than a half-century, to long before North Korea split its first atom.

In mid-August 1950, just seven weeks after North Korea invaded South Korea and five years after two U.S. atomic bombs killed at least 220,000 Japanese in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, U.S. nuclear weapons were first assigned to the new war theater, according to a declassified Army planning document obtained by the AP.

Retreating U.S. and South Korean troops were then desperately clinging to a last-ditch salient in Korea's southeast, from which they soon broke out in a counteroffensive that took them into North Korea.

That November, after Chinese troops joined in defending North Korea, then-President Harry Truman rattled the nuclear saber at a Washington news conference, saying, "There has always been active consideration of its use."

Regional U.S. commander Gen. Douglas MacArthur, in interviews published posthumously, said he had a plan at the time to drop 30 to 50 atom bombs across the northern neck of the Korean peninsula, to block further Chinese intervention.

Based on previously declassified documents, however, historians believe the U.S. came closest to unleashing its atomic arsenal against North Korea in April 1951, on the eve of an expected Chinese offensive.

With Truman's signoff, the Joint Chiefs of Staff ordered A-bomb retaliation if large numbers of fresh Chinese troops entered the fight. In the end, the U.S. military repelled the Chinese push and the weapons were never used. But Pentagon planners retained the option.

In September and October 1951, Air Force B-29 bombers conducted simulated atomic-bombing runs against Pyongyang, dropping dummy weapons on the North Korean capital, according to a newly obtained Army planning document corroborating earlier disclosures.

By early 1953, the U.S., frustrated by stalled armistice talks, pondered launching a new offensive against the north Koreans and Chinese. The Pentagon's Air Staff recommended using A-bombs to achieve victory "in the shortest space of time," according to a Feb. 20, 1953, memo from the Air Force director of plans, Maj. Gen. Robert Lee.

Added a top-secret CIA Special Estimate, "The Communists would recognize the employment of these weapons as indicative of Western determination to carry the Korean war to a successful conclusion."

Then, in a series of memos in May, June and July 1953, Air Force generals reported progress in planning an "atomic offensive" to "destroy effective Communist military power in Korea" if the armistice talks broke down completely.

On July 27, 1953, an armistice was signed. Then-President Dwight D. Eisenhower would later credit the nuclear threat—conveyed through back channels to Beijing—for pressuring the Chinese into an agreement.

Even without nuclear weapons, three years of U.S. conventional bombing had devastated North Korea, killing hundreds of thousands of civilians.

The nuclear planning didn't stop with the fighting. On Aug. 20, 1953, declassified documents show, the Strategic Air Command sent Air Force headquarters a plan for "an air atomic offensive against China, Manchuria and North Korea" if the communists resumed hostilities. "OpPlan 8-53" called for use of "large numbers of atomic weapons."

The post-armistice respite, meanwhile, stirred up inter-service rivalries.

Air Force commanders asked for more nuclear-capable F-84G warplanes in the Korea theater "to offset the Navy's greater and more immediate atomic delivery capability," the declassified documents show. But one colonel warned against arousing "the Army-Navy suspicion that the Air Force is trying to steal the atomic bomb act" in Korea planning.

By the late 1950s, all the services shared in an "era of relative atomic plenty," as an Air Force memo called it. The number of nuclear warheads in South Korea and nearby Okinawa—in artillery shells, short-range missiles, gravity bombs and other weapons—peaked at about 2,600 in 1967, civilian researchers would later determine.

In 1969, after the North Koreans shot down a U.S. reconnaissance plane over the Sea of Japan, then-President Richard Nixon's lieutenants had these nuclear tools at hand for laying out retaliatory options.

"USAF tactical fighters armed with nuclear weapons are on 15-minute alert in ROK (Republic of Korea) to strike airfields in North Korea," said the contingency plan Defense Secretary Melvin Laird sent to White House national security chief Henry Kissinger, a document obtained by the National Security Archive.

In the end, Nixon decided against military retaliation. The Pentagon had noted that the reaction of China and the Soviet Union, both nuclear-armed, was unpredictable.

In 1975, in response to a perceived North Korean threat of renewed war, President Gerald Ford's defense secretary, James Schlesinger, openly confirmed the presence of U.S. nuclear weapons in South Korea for the first time, and warned North Korea, "I do not think it would be wise to test (U.S.) reactions."

President Jimmy Carter's administration later scaled back the Korea-based arsenal, and its complete withdrawal was announced in 1991, although the North Koreans at times accuse the U.S. of maintaining a secret nuclear stockpile in the south.

Korea specialists generally accept Pyongyang's stated rationale that it sought its own bomb for defensive reasons—"as a response to the U.S. deployment of tactical nuclear weapons in South Korea," says author Selig Harrison.

Yoshiki Mine of Japan's Canon Institute for Global Studies, who as a diplomat dealt with both disarmament and North Korea, said the northern regime feels its existence as a nation is threatened.

The U.S. nuclear option "does give the North Koreans an excuse to develop, acquire and own nuclear weapons," Mine told the AP. "They have indicated many times that as long as this basic security is not secured, they would not abandon nuclear weapons."

Overdrive

The 2011 Porsche Cayenne. MCT

Porsche gets it right with 2011 Cayenne

By DAVID UNDERCOFFLER
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Though it's been around since 2002, the Cayenne S has finally earned its Porsche crest with the 2011 rendition.

When the company decided to call its SUV the Cayenne, it probably had no idea how apt the moniker would be. The mere idea that Porsche would relent to consumers' infatuation with sport utility vehicles elicited a reaction from Porsche purists not unlike eating a tablespoon of the namesake pepper: a red face, a sweaty brow, a fit of coughing.

And they had a point. While the original Cayenne was a capable vehicle, both on-road and off, its weight and general execution were too far removed from Porsche's DNA.

Yet the Cayenne quickly became Porsche's global sales leader and has been so for much of its lifespan. (Only recently did Porsche's first four-door sedan, the Panamera, eclipse the Cayenne's sales.) This allowed Porsche to funnel Cayenne profit into R&D for the Boxster, Cayman and the venerable 911.

After I spent a week in a new $79,160 Cayenne S, it was clear that a good deal of that profit also went into development of this second generation. It's every bit the amalgamation of a sports car and sport utility vehicle that Porsche would have you believe.

Now the only thing to make you red in the face is its price tag.

For starters, engineers reduced the Cayenne's weight by about 400 pounds, or about 10 percent, from the previous model to 4,553 pounds. Shaving the equivalent of a boy band off a vehicle's weight is never easy, but Porsche was able to do so with liberal application of aluminum. The chassis alone is 145 pounds lighter, and aluminum doors, tailgate, hood and wheels all contribute. Also trimming the Cayenne's waistline is a new all-wheel-drive system.

This reduced weight, paired with an optional suspension system called Porsche Active Suspension Management, makes the Cayenne S a surprisingly adroit handler. Switch into "sport" mode ("normal" and "comfort" are your other choices) and aim the SUV at the curves of your choice. Much as with a point-and-shoot camera, the operator's task becomes remarkably easy.

These abilities were made clear when I took a Cayenne S around a racetrack with a professional driver as my co-pilot. Nothing helps you overcome the notion that an SUV is a beast of burden than a helmeted speed junkie yelling for you to carry more speed through a turn than common sense dictates.

Largely bereft of body roll or understeer, the Cayenne never blinked. Furthermore, triple-digit speeds down the straight were an exercise in vehicular meditation.

Yet the Cayenne S occupies such a broad spectrum of excellence that my Sand White example was more than comfortable bouncing around an off-highway vehicle park outside Santa Clarita, Calif.

NUTS & BOLTS

Base price: $64,675
Price as tested: $79,160
Powertrain: 4.8-liter, 32-valve DOHC V-8 engine; eight-speed Tiptronic S automatic transmission with manual mode
Horsepower: 400 at 6,500 rpm
Torque: 369 pound-feet at 3,500 rpm
Wheelbase: 114.0 inches
Overall length: 190.8 inches
Curb weight: 4,553 pounds
0 to 60: 5.6 seconds
EPA fuel economy: 16/22 mpg city/highway
Final thoughts: Porsche's pepper placates the purists.

The standard full-time, all-wheel-drive system has an off-road mode that locks the center differential and diverts more torque to the front wheels for added traction. The Porsche climbed and descended grades Ed Viesturs would admire, all on summer tires, no less.

Not only is the new Cayenne lighter and more fun to drive, but it's also bigger, more powerful and more efficient.

Power for the Cayenne S comes from a 4.8-liter V-8 that is nearly identical to that found in Porsche's sedan, the Panamera S.

This refined unit puts out 400 horsepower and 369 pound-feet of torque and does so with a smooth and linear pull during acceleration. Porsche says the 0-60 time is 5.6 seconds, though it has been conservative with such numbers in the past.

This engine is mated with a new eight-speed Tiptro-nic S automatic transmission with steering wheel-mounted manual controls. Though eight speeds may seem excessive, the Cayenne reaches top speed in sixth gear, and uses the final two to maximize fuel efficiency.

Gear changes are so discreet that one tends to forget the profusion of choices until switching to manual mode. Also new is an automatic start/stop function that turns off the engine at stop lights to save fuel.

The new transmission and lighter curb weight contribute to a mileage rating on the Cayenne S of 16 mpg city and 22 mpg highway, a noticeable bump over the previous model of 13/19 mpg. In my 400 miles of driving, I averaged 17.1 mpg.

Though you can't tell by looking at it, the 2011 Cayenne is slightly bigger than its predecessor, despite its lighter weight. This trick on the eye is largely the result of an exterior redesign that is more taut and streamlined.

The front maintains its pointed snout and Porsche genetics while the rear is completely new and bears a strong resemblance to that of the Panamera, with wider, curving taillights that extend into the lift gate.

If the exterior of the new Cayenne is an evolution, the interior is a revolution. Porsche wisely took the intricate yet functional dashboard layout in the Panamera and applied it to the SUV.

Many of the controls for the heating, cooling and drivetrain options have been moved to the elevated center console and have a bespoke feel to them.

This setup snugly isolates driver and passenger and requires an initial bit of hunt-and-peck for the desired buttons, but it's a mild learning curve. It's easily the nicest interior in a class that includes BMW's X5, Mercedes Benz's ML, Audi's Q7 and Land Rover's Range Rover Sport.

Furthermore, with the wheelbase, length and width all up by a couple of inches, there is more interior room for passengers and more cargo space in the back.

The base Cayenne S starts at $64,675, but as with all Porsches, expect the options to add up very quickly.

My test vehicle had more than $14,000 worth of add-ons, including a $7,790 Premium Package (with the upgraded suspension system, 14-way power driver and passenger seats, park assist and a heated steering wheel) and $2,730 20-inch wheels that did nothing to improve the car's aesthetics.

For all the performance and style that this Cayenne embodies—and at these prices—it seems a little silly that the example I tested lacked amenities such as a back-up camera, ventilated seats, a rear entertainment system and rear-seat climate controls. (All are available as options.)

If a $30,000 Kia has a back-up camera, you'd almost think an $80,000 Porsche would come with a foot-massaging, Imax back-up camera with night vision. In 3-D.

Your other branches of the Cayenne family are the $47,675-base V-6 Cayenne, the $68,675 Cayenne S Hybrid (supercharged V-6 paired with an electric motor) and the $105,775 Cayenne Turbo.

None of these are cheap peppers. But in exchange for your lighter wallet, you're getting an SUV markedly closer to Porsche's DNA. Still sweating, purists?

When inside of car fogs up, check carpets for water

By PAUL BRAND
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

QUESTION: I bought my 2008 Nissan Rogue new. The front windshield fogs up on the inside when I get in the car after work or after it's been parked at the gym for an hour in the morning. Other cars in the parking lot don't have this problem. The dealer resealed the windshield, but it still happens. Any suggestions?

ANSWER: Fogging or condensation on the inside of the windshield is caused by moisture in the car's interior. As the glass cools after a drive, moisture condenses on the inside of the glass. Check the floor mats, carpet and carpet padding for wetness. If the padding is seriously wet, it will likely need to be removed for cleaning and drying or even replacement. Wet carpets can be caused by rain leaking past the door seals, around the windshield or from a lack of proper drainage from the heater core/evaporator housing.

If the windshield is the source of the leak, it may not be properly bonded into the windshield frame. Modern unibody vehicles feature windshields that are glued into the opening to become a structural part of the vehicle. In fact, the passenger-side airbag uses the windshield as a backboard, so to speak, to deflect the inflating airbag into position to protect passenger-seat occupants. If the windshield is leaking, the bond is somewhat suspect.

I'm not sure how the windshield could be "resealed" without removing and reinstalling it properly. Check with the dealer, and check the status of your glass coverage on your automobile's comprehensive insurance coverage.

Q: I have a 1995 Mercury Sable with a 3.8-liter engine that had an intermittent starting problem for several months. The car would crank over fine but not fire. After waiting 10 minutes, it would finally start and run normally. I haven't been able to get it started for a week now. There is no fuel pressure (the pump will not run when the ignition is turned on) and there is no spark. I tested the ignition module, fuel pump and the inertia switch in the trunk, and all function properly. Is there something else in the electrical system that will shut down the fuel pump and the ignition?

A: Sure, the ignition switch. An old vehicle with lots of miles may well have worn or intermittent contacts in the ignition switch. Also, the constant control relay module works with the powertrain control module (PCM) to control the fuel pump and includes the power relay for the PCM. It might also be worthwhile to check the electrical ground connections among the battery, chassis and drivetrain.

Q: I have a 1994 Dodge Grand Caravan with 104,000 miles on it. I have been told that my leaking fuel rail will cost $810.81 to fix. Is there any way this can be plugged for now until I can afford to replace it?

A: Very unlikely—and if there were, it wouldn't be safe. Pressurized fuel leaking into the engine compartment is a recipe for fire. But you should find out exactly where the leak is or what part is leaking. The individual fuel injectors, injector O-ring seals, fuel pressure regulator and rollover valve can be replaced individually. The fuel rail itself costs about $165 plus 1 1/2 hours of labor to replace. In other words, it seems likely that a leaking component in the fuel rail assembly can be replaced for way less than $800. If your budget is tight, try picking up used components at an auto salvage yard.

Paul Brand, author of "How to Repair Your Car," is an automotive troubleshooter, driving instructor and former race-car driver. Readers may write to him at: Star Tribune, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488 or via e-mail at paulbrand@startribune.com. Please explain the problem in detail and include a daytime phone number. It isn't always possible to send a personal reply.

Life & Style

Film festival shows contrasts of Mexico's drug war

MORELIA, Mexico (AP)—From afar it seems like Baghdad: car bombs, beheadings and corrupt politicians.

Up close, Mexico remains magical and picturesque in parts, feeling oddly safe even in the hardest-fought territories of the drug war.

The 8th annual International Film Festival opened Saturday in the drug-plagued state of Michoacan to its largest turnout ever, drawing the contrast that defines Mexico today.

Only blocks from the site where a 2008 grenade attack killed eight people, hundreds lined the red carpet to squeal at one of Hollywood's leading men, Oscar-winning Spanish actor Javier Bardem. Unlike the Jonas Brothers in the drug-war-ravaged city of Monterrey, no one canceled—organizers say—for a festival that also features Hollywood blockbuster director Robert Rodriguez and Monty Python funnyman-turned-director Terry Gilliam.

AP

British director Terry Gilliam speaks during a press conference at the Morelia International Film Festival in Morelia, Mexico, Sunday, Oct. 17, 2010.

"I'm waiting to see the bad side of Morelia," Gilliam told reporters Sunday. "Since I've been in Morelia, I've been blown away by the architecture. It's such a beautiful place."

Mexican director Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu, whose film "Biutiful" starring Bardem opened the festival, acknowledged to a full auditorium in cocktail attire that his homeland is seeing a difficult time.

He told The Associated Press on Sunday that violence in Mexico appears to be out control. But culture and education are very powerful weapons in the war against it.

"These are very powerful acts of resistance. I think the seed or the root of what we're experiencing is a lack of education ... the lack of opportunity for millions of Mexicans," the director of "Babel" and "Amores Perros" said.

"So to talk about movies, the festival of Morelia and to support filmmakers and Mexican cinema as way to understand ourselves is a very important weapon ... to have places where people can speak, think about the important things we have lost perspective on in the desperation we all confront."

The home state of President Felipe Calderon, Michoacan is the first place he sent troops after taking office and announcing a crackdown on organized crime. It's a state largely controlled by the vicious yet devout La Familia (the Family) cartel, which made its debut by tossing heads onto a disco floor in 2006 in Uruapan, a city just 60 miles (100 kilometers) from the state capital, Morelia.

Politicians are under attack, on the take or both as the Calderon government arrested 35 state public officials last year on charges of ties to La Familia, only to suffer the embarrassment of seeing a judge release all but one for lack of evidence. Michoacan's sitting congressman, under indictment for aiding La Familia, sneaked into his swearing-in to gain immunity awarded to elected officials in Mexico.

Last week a radio station aired a recorded telephone call allegedly between the lawmaker and the leader of La Familia, Servando Gomez, known as "La Tuta."

Meanwhile, people linger in Morelia's sidewalk cafes and stroll the sandstone archways and cobblestone streets doused in temperature-perfect sunshine. The festival was heavily patrolled by soldiers in 2008 and 2009 after the grenade attack, but none are visible this year.

"Our life is normal," said resident Salvador Diaz, 32, who took a spin with his motorcycle club Saturday afternoon before escorting his wife to the festival opening. "The people of Michoacan are very hardworking. No, our political and security situation are not adequate, but we're moving forward."

The festival has been a chance to show another face of Mexico and another family of Michoacan: Cuauhtemoc Cardenas, grandson of beloved, iron-fisted President Lazaro Cardenas, is vice president of the festival. He inaugurated the renovated Teatro Emperador Caltzontzin in nearby Patzcuaro on Friday night with a showing of the 1948 Mexican classic, "Maclovia," starring Maria Felix in a story about the virtues of the indigenous people of Michoacan.

Cardenas called it a special place because on the same date 72 years ago, his grandfather, who was president from 1936 to 1940, opened the theater for the first time.

His father, former presidential candidate and Mexico City Mayor Cuauhtemoc Cardenas, also attended the opening events.

"In some small towns, daily life is ruled by organized crime," he said. "But that's not the case in cities like Morelia. With cultural events like this, the atmosphere is calm and comfortable."

The festival continues to climb the ladder of prestige as it seeks to sit beside Sundance, Toronto and Cannes with 270 entries this year and 500 invited guests, including about 100 foreignors—more than in the past.

Starting three years ago, its prizewinning short films have been eligible to compete for Oscars.

"I think with Telluride in the U.S., this is the best festival in the world," said Hollywood producer Michael Fitzgerald, who has been a juror and shown films at the festival, such as "The Three Burials of Melquiades Estrada" starring Tommy Lee Jones.

He called Mexico's drug violence "a parallel universe that none of us ever see."

"I've had to convince people in the U.S. who have heard all this nonsense to come here," Fitzgerald said, "and now they come every year."

New book gives intimate portrait of convicted Knox

ROME (AP)—Amanda Knox, the American student convicted in Italy of murdering her British roommate, is quoted as saying in a new book that she'd rather not be famous for the slaying and that her days in jail feel like "limbo"—suspended between her old life and her hopes for the future.

Knox talks about her aspirations to marry and adopt children, and her interests in writing and studying languages in a series of jailhouse conversations with an Italian lawmaker who visited her over the past year. The conversations serve as the basis for the book.

The 23-year-old Knox was convicted in December of murder and sexual assault in the 2007 death of her housemate, British student Meredith Kercher. She was sentenced to 26 years in prison by a court in Perugia, central Italy.

Knox's former boyfriend, Raffaele Sollecito of Italy, was convicted alongside Knox and sentenced to 25 years in prison. A third man, Rudy Hermann Guede, an Ivory Coast citizen, was convicted in a separate, earlier trial and sentenced to 30 years in prison—which was cut to 16 years on appeal.

All three have maintained their innocence. The book "Take Me With You—Talks with Amanda Knox in Prison" by lawmaker Rocco Girlanda comes out Tuesday, about a month before Knox's appeal begins Nov. 24. A lawyer for the Kercher family called it "inappropriate" and unnecessary.

"We certainly don't feel there was a need for this book," Kercher family attorney Francesco Maresca said.

The book is one of many on a case that has fascinated audiences on both sides of the Atlantic. But unlike the others, it does not discuss Kercher's murder.

Knox is quoted as mentioning Kercher's name only once—to say on the day of the discovery of "Meredith's case" she was supposed to go on a trip to a nearby town with Sollecito.

Instead, the book focuses on Knox's personality, her childhood in Seattle, her hopes for post-prison life. The conversations range from mundane topics—movies and bike-riding—to wider subjects—literature and religion—and even touch on the possibility of alien life in the universe.

The book is being published in Italian and as an e-book in English by Piemme, a publishing house within the Mondadori media empire. The Associated Press was given an advance copy exclusively among international media.

Knox says she would like to get married but "must also find the person," and would adopt children rather than giving birth because "there are a lot of kids in this world who have no one."

She speaks of the letters she received in jail, including marriage proposals.

"Everybody tells me, 'You're famous.' And I answer, 'I'm not Angelina Jolie!'" she is quoted as saying. "How ugly to be famous for this. I would have preferred to be (famous) for something I built, I achieved."

AP

In this Tuesday, June 1, 2010 file photo, jailed US student Amanda Knox, center, sits between her two lawyers, during a preliminary hearing in Perugia, Italy.

At another point, Knox says "being in here is like being in a limbo."

"You live a little bit between the memory of life the way it was before, your hopes for tomorrow—and trying as hard as you can not to feel like you're in here," she says.

Girlanda says he kept diaries of the some 20 Italian-language conversations he has had with Knox since her conviction. Girlanda, who heads a foundation that promotes ties between Italy and the United States, said he started meeting with Knox in a bid to help offset the diplomatic fallout the explosive case had created.

The lawmaker said he was curious to know the person behind the public persona, and never talked to Knox's parents, friends or lawyers.

"I wanted to know Amanda, I wasn't interested in Amanda Knox," Girlanda told the AP. He insisted the girl he had come to know was different from the "sex, drugs and rock and roll" image depicted by some in the press.

Knox was described by the prosecution as a manipulative, cold-blooded she-devil who had grown apart from Kercher. Knox insisted she was friends with the victim and was shocked by her death.

The attorney for the Kercher family, Maresca, said he had not read the book but understood the author was trying to portray Knox as a profound, smart girl who as such could not possibly have been guilty.

But Maresca maintained that conversations which took place years after the crime aren't necessarily indicative of a person's true character.

"Three years of prison—and three years in a life in general—can change a person," Maresca said. "People can appear different from what they really are—or can even genuinely have changed."

Kercher's body was found in a pool of blood with her throat slit on Nov. 2, 2007, in the bedroom of the house she shared with Knox while the two were exchange students in Perugia. Knox and Sollecito were arrested a few days later.

Prosecutors say on the night of the murder, Knox and Sollecito met at the apartment and Guede was also there. The prosecution said Knox and Kercher started arguing, and Knox joined the two men in brutally attacking and sexually assaulting the Briton while being under the influence of drugs.

Maresca has called the long prison sentences fair, saying they had satisfied Kercher's bereaved family.

'Jackass' gang pulls biggest stunt with $50M debut

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Johnny Knoxville and his "Jackass" gang are even bigger hits in three dimensions.

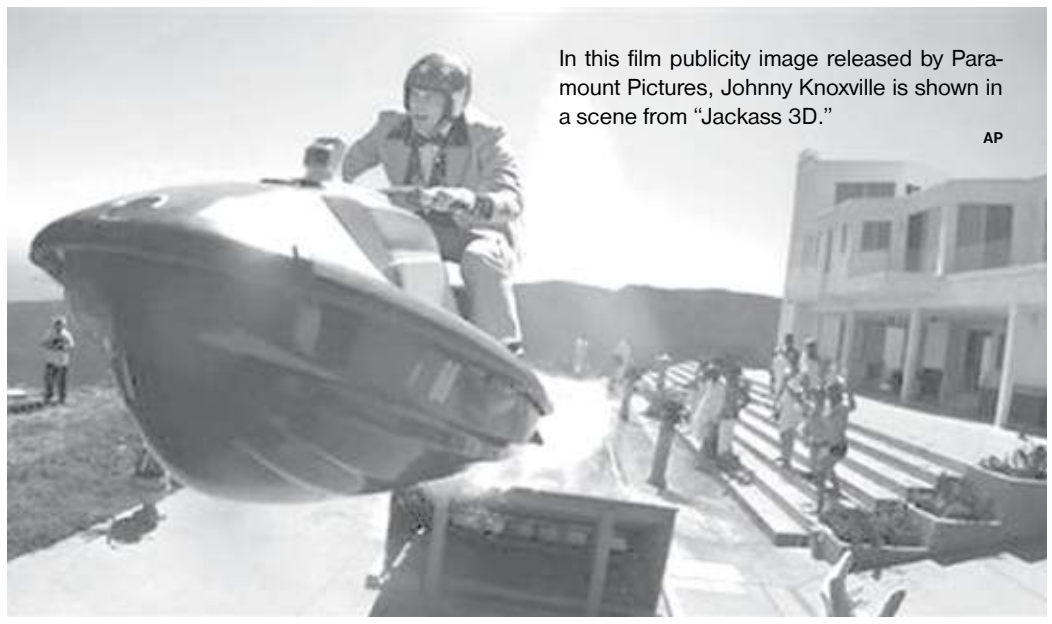
"Jackass 3D," their latest big-screen collection of crazy stunts and antics, opened with a whopping $50 million, soaring past the debuts of their first two movies, according to studio estimates Sunday.

It was the third-straight No. 1 opening for Paramount's franchise, which launched with a $22.8 million opening for 2002's "Jackass: The Movie" and continued with a $29 million debut for 2006's "Jackass Number Two."

This was the first 3-D outing for Knoxville and his pals, and it was a natural for "what they do. They don't use it as a gimmick. It's seamless in their stunts," said Don Harris, Paramount executive vice president for distribution. "When some guy gets hit in the crotch with a baseball in 2-D, it's one thing, but when he's kind of up in your face and it happens, it's another experience."

"Jackass 3D" set a record for biggest October debut, topping the $48.1 million opening weekend for "Scary Movie 3" in 2003. "Scary Movie 3" sold more tickets than "Jackass 3D," though, factoring in ticket-price inflation and the premium charge for 3-D screenings, which cost a few dollars more than 2-D movies. Premiering at No. 2 with $22.5 million was Summit Entertainment's action comedy "Red," starring Bruce Willis, Morgan Freeman, Helen Mirren, John Malkovich and Mary-Louise Parker in the tale of retired black-ops agents targeted by the CIA.

1. "**Jackass 3D**," $50 million.
2. "**Red**," $22.5 million.
3. "**The Social Network**," $11 million.
4. "**Secretariat**," $9.5 million.
5. "**Life as We Know It**," $9.2 million.
6. "**Legend of the Guardians: The Owls of Ga'Hoole**," $4.2 million.
7. "**The Town**," $4 million.
8. "**My Soul to Take**," $3.2 million.
9. "**Easy A**," $2.7 million.
10. "**Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps**," $2.4 million.



In this film publicity image released by Paramount Pictures, Johnny Knoxville is shown in a scene from "Jackass 3D."

AP

While "Jackass 3D" cornered the market for young crowds, with two-thirds of viewers under 25, "Red" drew an older set, with 58 percent of the audience over 35.

"Between their audience and ours, I think we've covered the spectrum of potential moviegoers this weekend," said Richie Fay, head of distribution for Summit. "What was amazing about this cast was the chemistry and the obvious fun they had making the movie. Older guys and women are really capable of doing things more than sitting in rocking chairs and pushing the remote control."

Despite the huge opening for "Jackass 3D," Hollywood was unable to pull out of a box-office slide that has persisted this fall.

Overall revenues totaled $133 million, down 4 percent from the same weekend last year, when "Where the Wild Things Are" led with a $32.7 million debut and "Law Abiding Citizen," "Paranormal Activity" and "Couples Retreat" combined to add nearly $60 million to the till.

"When you've got a $50 million gross and still can't eke out a win over the same weekend last year, that says a lot," said Paul Dergarabedian, box-office analyst for Hollywood.com. "We've been in a slump since Labor Day and even really before that, because we saw kind of a slow end to the summer."

So far this year, domestic revenue is at $8.5 billion, 3.2 percent above 2009's record pace. But adding in higher ticket prices, attendance is down 2.3 percent from 2009, according to Hollywood.com.

Sony's acclaimed Facebook drama "The Social Network," which had been No. 1 the previous two weekends, held up well as it slipped to third-place with $11 million. The film raised its three-week total to $63.1 million.

In limited release, Clint Eastwood and Matt Damon's "Hereafter" opened strongly with $231,000 in six theaters. That gave it an average of $38,500 a theater, compared with $16,228 in 3,081 cinemas for "Jackass 3D."

"Hereafter" follows three characters with unusual connections to the afterlife. Distributor Warner Bros. expands the film to nationwide release this Friday. Hilary Swank's legal drama "Conviction," based on the real-life story of a woman who put herself through law school to clear her brother on a murder rap, opened with $110,000 in 11 theaters, for a $10,000 average.

Distributor Fox Searchlight expands "Conviction" to about 70 theaters on Friday.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Hollywood.com. Final figures will be released Monday.

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Red

Friday		4:15	7:15	9:50
Saturday	1:15	4:15	7:15	9:50
Sunday	1:15	4:15	7:15	
Mon through Thurs		4:15	7:15	

Bruce Willis, Morgan Freeman
Thriller, Action • Rated PG 13

Synopsis
Warren Ellis' acclaimed Wildstorm comic series is adapted in this Summit Entertainment production starring Bruce Willis as a retired government hitman who gets targeted by the same outfit he once worked for. Morgan Freeman and Helen Mirren co-star, with Robert Schwentke (The Time Traveler's Wife) directing from a script by the Whiteout writing team of Erich and Jon Hoeber.

Easy A

Friday		4:10	7:10	9:45
Saturday	1:10	4:10	7:10	9:45
Sunday	1:10	4:10	7:10	
Mon through Thurs		4:10	7:10	

Emma Stone, Penn Badgley
Comedy • Rated PG 13

Synopsis
Nathaniel Hawthorne's The Scarlet Letter is re-imagined as a contemporary high school comedy in this tale of a scheming student who plots to give her popularity a boost by painting herself the easiest lay in school.

Nanny McPhee Returns

Friday		4:05	7:05	9:35
Saturday	1:05	4:05	7:05	9:35
Sunday	1:05	4:05	7:05	
Mon through Thurs		4:05	7:05	

Emma Thomson, Maggie Gyllenhaal
Comedy • Rated PG

Synopsis
A struggling mother receives some much-needed assistance tending to the family farm and raising a group of spirited children while her military husband is fighting overseas in this sequel to the whimsical 2005 fantasy comedy Nanny McPhee. Mrs. Isabel Green (Maggie Gyllenhaal) lives in a scenic valley with her two daughters and one son.

★ ★ ★

Life As We Know It

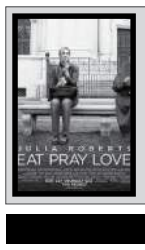
Friday		4:25	7:25	9:55
Saturday	1:25	4:25	7:25	9:55
Sunday	1:25	4:25	7:25	
Mon through Thurs		4:25	7:25	

Katherine Heigl, Josh Duhamel
Drama, Comedy • Rated PG 13

My Soul To Take

Friday		4:30	7:30	10:00
Saturday	1:30	4:30	7:30	10:00
Sunday	1:30	4:30	7:30	
Mon through Thurs		4:30	7:30	

Max Thieriot, John Magaro
Drama • Rated R



Eat, Pray, Love

Friday		4:00	7:00	9:40
Saturday	1:00	4:00	7:00	9:40
Sunday	1:00	4:00	7:00	
Mon through Thurs		4:00	7:00	

Julia Roberts, James Franco
Drama • Rated PG 13

Legend Of The Guardians: The Owls of Ga'Hoole

Friday		4:20	7:20	9:30
Saturday	1:20	4:20	7:20	9:30
Sunday	1:20	4:20	7:20	
Mon through Thurs		4:20	7:20	

Sam Neil, Geoffrey Rush
Fantasy, Action • Rated PG

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'Avatar' among Environmental Media Awards winners

BURBANK, Calif. (AP)—The world's highest-grossing film and one of the most awarded TV shows are also some of the greenest productions around.

"Avatar" and "30 Rock" were among the winners of the 2010 Environmental Media Association awards on Saturday night, which recognized individuals, organizations and productions that help increase public awareness of environmental issues.

The awards were presented at an eco-friendly ceremony at Warner Bros. Studios that featured organic food and compostable dinnerware. Actors Olivia Munn and Jason Ritter hosted the event, which was sponsored by one of Hollywood's favorite green-mobiles, Toyota Prius.

Other productions recognized for spreading a green message were the documentary "Gasland" and TV shows "Bones," "Handy Manny," "Living With Ed" and "Lights, Camera, Take Action! Backstage With Disney's Friends for Change."

Entrepreneurs Ted Turner and Jeff Skoll received honorary awards for their environmental contributions. Natalie Portman presented Skoll with his award. His namesake foundation has funded organizations such as The Amazon Conservation Team, the American Council on Renewable Energy and Global Footprint Network.

AP

Actress Eva Mendes arrives at the Environmental Media Awards at Warner Bros. Studios in Burbank, Calif. on Saturday, Oct. 16, 2010.

Turner, who founded CNN, supports wildlife habitat preservation, promotes sustainable energy and furthers other environmental causes through his Turner Foundation. His award was presented by his ex-wife, Jane Fonda.

Rosario Dawson, Lance Bass and Eva Mendes were also among awards presenters.

Turner, who says he's been an environmentalist since he was 10, said that though there is much more to be done to protect the planet, he's buoyed by the ever-increasing awareness of environmental issues in the United States and worldwide.

"Even people who are not conserving, they know about it, and knowing about it is really important, because you can change," the 71-year-old media mogul said in an interview. "You can change from somebody who doesn't care much about the environment to somebody who's very concerned about it."

Ga. mom sues Tyra Banks after teen appears on show

ATLANTA (AP)—A Georgia woman is suing Tyra Banks for $3 million after she said her 15-year-old daughter appeared without her permission on an episode of Banks' talk show about teen sex addicts.

In a lawsuit filed Oct. 8 in federal court in Atlanta, Beverly McClendon claims the show contacted the teen on her cell phone after she responded to a request on the show's website seeking "sex addicts." The girl was then picked up from her home in Georgia in a limo and flown to New York, where she was put up in a hotel, all without her mother's knowledge, the lawsuit says.

McClendon filed a missing person report with local police when she realized her daughter was gone. The teen has never been diagnosed as a sex addict, the lawsuit says.

The lawsuit also names Warner Bros. Entertainment and the executive producers of the show as defendants.

McClendon says her daughter suffered damages because the 2009 show "was undoubtedly watched by sexual deviants, perverts and pedophiles."

AP

This Sept. 20, 2010 photo shows television personality Tyra Banks at the premiere of 'Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps' at the Ziegfeld Theatre in New York.

The lawsuit seeks a jury trial and asks for $1 million in compensatory damages and $2 million in punitive damages. It also asks the court to bar the episode from ever being aired again on television or online.

Warner Bros. Television Group spokesman Scott Rowe said Sunday that the company had no comment. Banks' publicist, agent and lawyer did not immediately return calls Sunday seeking comment.

The show violated McClendon's right to privacy by putting her daughter, who was a minor, on television without McClendon's permission, the lawsuit claims.

The lawsuit also claims negligence, saying the teen was paid for her appearance but that the show didn't get permission from the labor commissioner to employ her and didn't get McClendon's permission before paying the girl to fly to New York, stay in a hotel alone and appear on the show.

Actor Simon MacCorkindale dies of cancer at 58

LONDON (AP)—British actor Simon MacCorkindale, who starred on British television in "Casualty" and in the United States in "Falcon Crest," has died at age 58.

MacCorkindale died Thursday of bowel cancer in a London clinic, publicist Max Clifford said.

Once talked up as a potential James Bond, MacCorkindale's career proved more modest. He won the starring role in "Manimal" as a crime-fighting college professor capable of metamorphosing into any animal, but it survived for just eight episodes on the U.S. network NBC in 1983.

He had better luck on CBS' "Falcon Crest," appearing in 59 episodes from 1984 to 1986 as womanizing lawyer Greg Reardon.

Back in his native England, MacCorkindale had a six-year run on the long-running BBC hospital series "Casualty" as consultant Harry Harper.

"One of the reasons so many people have loved working with him on 'Casualty' is because of the tone he established on the shop floor, always welcoming, always disciplined, always quietly the leader," said John Yorke, controller of BBC drama production.

MacCorkindale made his London stage debut in 1974 as a sarcastic bystander in George Bernard Shaw's "Pygmalion." He tackled the title role in "Macbeth" at the Ludlow Festival in 1980, and played Capt. Georg von Trapp in the London revival of "The Sound of Music" in 2008-2009.

In the BBC miniseries "I, Claudius" in 1976 he took the role of Lucius.

Film roles include the murderer Simon Doyle in "Death on the Nile" in 1977 and as Philip FitzRoyce in "Jaws 3-D" ("Jaws III").

His first marriage to Fiona Fullerton ended in divorce. He is survived by his second wife and fellow actor, Susan George. He had no children.

AP

This file photo of May 24, 2010 shows actor Simon MacCorkindale with his wife Susan George in London.

Mexican borough makes world's biggest enchilada

AP

Chefs prepare the world's largest 'Enchilada', a traditional Mexican food, during the National Enchilada Fair at the neighborhood of Iztapalapa in Mexico City, Sunday, Oct. 17, 2010.

MEXICO CITY (AP)—A Mexico City borough went for the whole enchilada—and got it!

Residents of Iztapalapa cooked up a 230-foot-long (70-meter-long), almost 1 1/2-ton enchilada Sunday. Guinness record official Ralph Hannah announced that it was the world's biggest.

The colossal concoction was made of corn tortillas, white onions, serrano chilis, green tomatoes, avocado, cheese, cream and a sea of salsas, among other ingredients.

"With this Guinness record we are showing the world that Iztapalapa is a high-level tourist destination," said Mexico City tourism secretary Alejandro Rojas.

Mexico City has gone for a number of world records recently, including the largest number of people dancing Michael Jackson's "Thriller" and most people kissing simultaneously.

Director Mike Leigh cancels Israel trip in protest

JERUSALEM (AP)—British filmmaker Mike Leigh has canceled a visit to Israel to protest against a proposed loyalty oath for new citizens.

The bill, passed by Israel's Cabinet last week, would require non-Jewish immigrants to pledge loyalty to a "Jewish and democratic" state - language widely seen as discriminatory toward Israel's Arab minority.

Leigh, the award-winning director of "Naked" and "Secrets & Lies," was to participate in a film festival next month. He is Jewish.

Writing to the school sponsoring the event, Leigh said he opposed Israel's policies on Gaza, but called the loyalty oath the "last straw."

The school's director, Renen Schorr, says Israeli artists face growing international isolation because of Israel's political situation.

New mother's best friend is poaching on her territory

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I recently gave birth to a beautiful, perfect baby girl, "Cassie." I also just returned to work. I would love to stay home, but I cannot afford to financially. I am lucky that my best friend, "Mary Ellen," doesn't have to work and has offered to care for my little 8-week-old bundle of joy.

My problem is, every day when I go to pick up Cassie, I must wait for Mary Ellen to say goodbye to her. She has started instructing me about how Cassie likes to sleep, be burped and held. While I appreciate her watching and caring for my little one, I am Cassie's mom and I know what she likes. The time I have with my daughter is precious. I just want to pick her up and go home.

How do I tell my friend it upsets me that she feels she should tell me about how to care for my own baby? I feel guilty and sad that I must work, and her comments make it worse. I know she's only trying to help. I don't want to hurt her feelings, but what can I do?

WORKING MOMMY IN BALTIMORE

DEAR WORKING MOMMY: Before your resentment grows any further, set Mary Ellen straight. Tell her you're grateful she can watch Cassie, but when you come to pick her up you want the baby ready to go. Tell your friend the time you must spend away from your daughter is painful and when she "suggests" how to hold or burp the baby, it makes you feel it's a reflection on your maternal ability.

If Mary Ellen gets it, things will improve. If she doesn't, make other arrangements for your child. Your friend may be becoming too attached to your baby and confused about her role.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I run a successful restaurant business. One of my key employees, "Zayne," has Tourette's syndrome. He has been a loyal and valuable waiter for many years.

When customers ask what is wrong with him because he makes noises or hits himself, how should I respond? Most of our regular customers understand his condition and ignore it. However, we do get the occasional socially inept customer who gawks or asks rude questions.

I would defend and protect Zayne. He knows people ask about him, and if they question him, he tells them about his condition. What's the best way to respond politely to people who don't have a clue?

ZAYNE'S BOSS IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

DEAR BOSS: If you are asked about Zayne, tell the questioner, "That's Zayne. He has been a valued employee here for many years. If you want an answer to your question, ask HIM."

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: Every time my son and his wife get into a big argument, she kicks him out of the bedroom and has their 8-year-old daughter sleep with her. This has happened many times in my granddaughter's life.

Should I be concerned for my granddaughter, or mind my own business?

CONCERNED GRANDMA IN FLORIDA

DEAR CONCERNED GRANDMA: If you're smart you won't insert yourself into your son and daughter-in-law's marital problems. They have enough of them without that. As to your granddaughter being invited to bunk with her mother when her father is in the doghouse—I don't think it will harm the child. Hearing her parents squabble might, however.

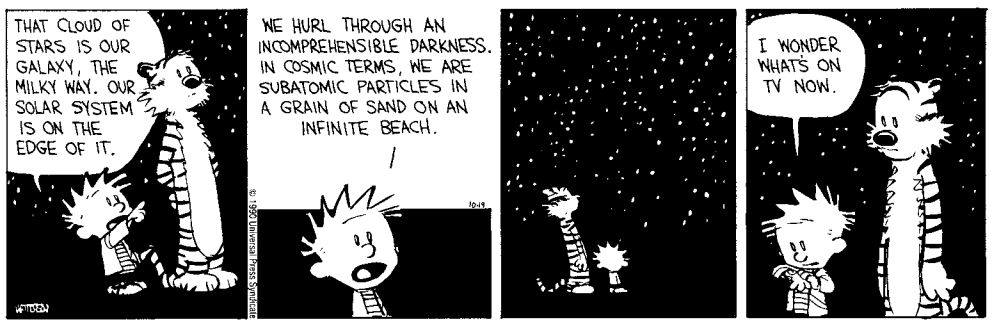
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby – Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Pastimes

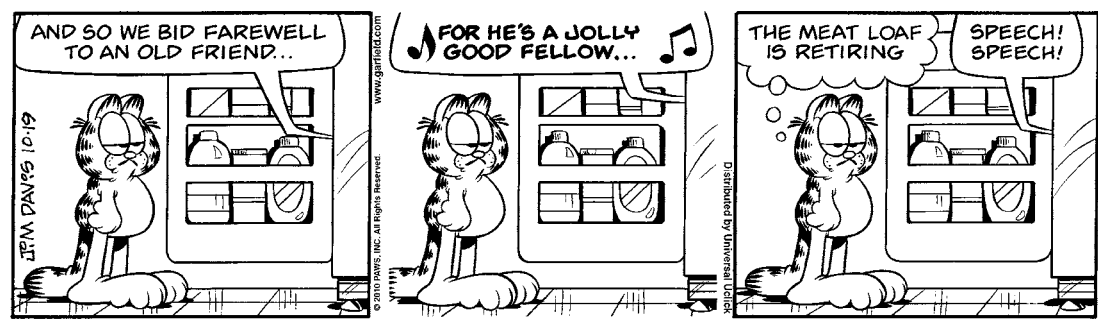
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


THAT CLOUD OF STARS IS OUR GALAXY, THE MILKY WAY. OUR SOLAR SYSTEM IS ON THE EDGE OF IT.
WE HURL THROUGH AN INCOMPREHENSIBLE DARKNESS. IN COSMIC TERMS, WE ARE SUBATOMIC PARTICLES IN A GRAIN OF SAND ON AN INFINITE BEACH.
I WONDER WHAT'S ON TV NOW.

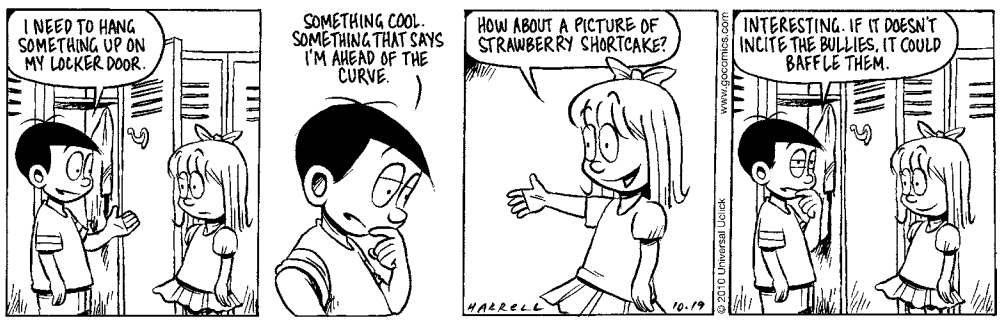
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


I NEED TO HANG SOMETHING UP ON MY LOCKER DOOR.
SOMETHING COOL. SOMETHING THAT SAYS I'M AHEAD OF THE CURVE.
HOW ABOUT A PICTURE OF STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE?
INTERESTING. IF IT DOESN'T INCITE THE BULLIES, IT COULD BAFFLE THEM.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

FACE IT, ENO. WE HAVE A GHOST HAUNTING OUR FRIDGE.
NONSENSE. PROVE IT!
THERE'S THREE BEERS MISSING.
HOW DO YOU KNOW IT WAS THE GHOST AND NOT US WHO DRANK THEM?
THE EMPTIES WERE IN THE RECYCLING BIN.
AUGHH!

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

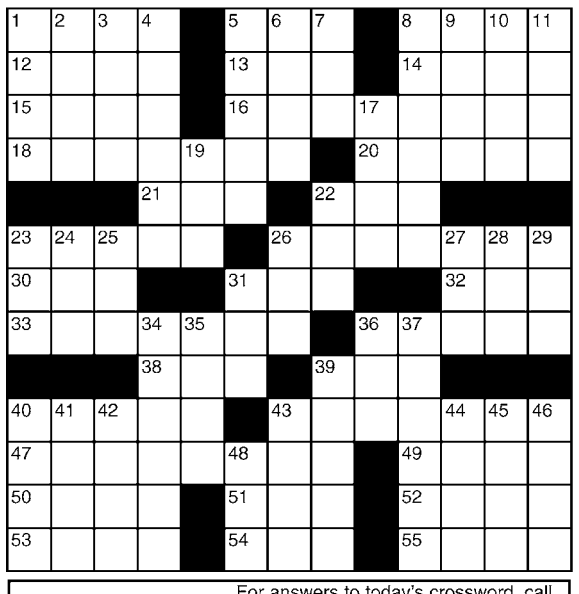
ACROSS
1 Make art with acid
5 Tackle the slopes
8 Volcano output
12 Horse's halter?
13 Melody
14 Not "fer"
15 Forever and ever
16 Green banana-like fruit
18 Keep up
20 Spooky
21 Conclusion
22 Sunbathe
23 Mix together
26 It's near the prosce-nium
30 Aries
31 Transmit quickly
32 — minute
33 Teetotal, e.g.
36 Smooth
38 "La Cage — Folles"
39 Sermon subject
40 With full force
43 Be relevant (to)
47 Peak
49 Gawk at
50 Shed
51 "Of course"
52 Opposite of blanc
53 Probability
54 Before
55 "Zounds!"

DOWN
1 Rams fans?
2 Quaker's address
3 Swindles
4 Waste no time
5 Flavorful
6 Potter's oven
7 401(k) alternative
8 Potential
9 Culture medium
10 Henry — who wed 11-Down
11 See 10-Down
17 Approach
19 Moreover
22 "Monkey suit"
23 Support at the top?
24 Retriever type, for short
25 Type squares
26 Metal container
27 Have a bug
28 Tattooist's supply
29 48-Down undoer
31 Repair
34 Poisons
35 Family member
36 Round Table address
37 Chant
39 Just know
40 Bullets and such
41 Disposition
42 "— Lang Syne"
43 Harbor structure
44 Wide-eyed
45 Pelvic bones
46 Target of taunts
48 See 29-Down

Solution time: 21 mins.

G	R	A	M	■	S	A	C	■	O	M	E	N
L	I	R	A	■	U	R	I	■	C	O	V	E
U	S	E	D	■	B	R	A	C	E	L	E	T
T	E	A	C	U	P	■	O	I	L	E	R	S
■	■	■	A	G	O	G	■	D	O	H	■	■
P	A	M	P	H	L	E	T	■	T	I	N	E
A	N	A	■	S	A	T	E	D	■	L	E	A
T	Y	K	E	■	R	O	N	D	E	L	E	T
■	■	E	G	O	■	N	A	A	N	■	■	■
A	N	O	R	A	K	■	N	Y	L	O	N	S
C	O	V	E	R	L	E	T	■	I	D	O	L
H	I	E	S	■	U	K	E	■	S	O	S	O
E	R	R	S	■	M	E	D	■	T	R	E	E

Yesterday's answer 10-19



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jason Reitman, 33; Chris Kattan, 40; Jon Favreau, 44; John Lithgow, 65

Happy Birthday: This is a year to strive for perfection and to make changes with regard to your profession. Take a serious look at what you have been doing and, if it hasn't satisfied you, try your hand at something you enjoy. No matter what your stage of life, focus more on your happiness and fulfilling your dreams, hopes and wishes. Respond to a creative urge. Your numbers are 1, 7, 10, 27, 33, 38, 42

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): A relationship problem may cloud your day. Being secretive will be to blame. Try to open up or get the person you are dealing with to discuss pending concerns. Communication is the only way to fix what's wrong. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Take control of any situation that has to do with a business or personal partnership. The way you handle people and issues will determine how far you can get. You will surprise everyone with your choices, especially when love enters the picture. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Don't take promises made to heart; they aren't likely to manifest into anything unless it benefits the person doing the offering. There are no freebies today. Do for yourself and you won't be let down. ✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Follow your heart, not your head. Don't be afraid to act on impulse. If you love someone, be vocal. Love is in the stars and not following through will be a lost opportunity. A creative project will be profitable. ✪✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): You may be looking for change or something new but don't make alterations without doing ample research. Chances are, what you want and what you get will differ drastically. Be smart regarding what you offer others. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Emotional confusion will make you question your current situation. Before you decide to make a move, consider what you have already. It's apparent you just need to make a slight adjustment, not a complete makeover. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Trust in your own judgment. Someone putting pressure on you will be trying to get something for nothing. Follow through with your own interests and goals. What you have to offer will draw attention, suggestions and propositions. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Do your best and stop worrying. Put yourself out there and don't be afraid to display what you have to offer. Unless you share, you cannot expect to get results. People have to get to know what you are all about and how sincere you are. ✪✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Do what you can for someone who needs your help and you will avoid criticism and complaints. Not paying enough attention to home and family will result in tension and actions beyond your control. Think before you speak. ✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Make a call or send an e-mail to someone you miss or who is from your past. Reconnecting with old friends or visiting places you haven't been in a long time will inspire you to pursue goals you set when life was less complicated. ✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): It's a money day. Spend wisely, invest in what you know and do best and put something away for unexpected expenses. Good things are heading your way. Look over contracts and personal papers. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): You will make wise choices and can negotiate deals easily. Love is in the stars and getting to the heart of any personal matter is favored. A commitment made will be honored. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are intense, imaginative and always ready to use your talents and skills. You are receptive and open to ideas.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

6	1						3	7
2								4
		8	3	6	7	9		
		3	7		8	2		
		4				5		
		6	1		5	3		
		1	4	5	2	7		
3								6
9	7						8	5

Difficulty Level ★★ 10/19

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Saturday's SUDOKU Answer

5	8	2	3	7	1	4	6	9
7	9	3	5	6	4	8	2	1
1	4	6	9	2	8	7	3	5
9	7	5	6	8	2	1	4	3
3	2	1	4	5	9	6	7	8
4	6	8	1	3	7	9	5	2
8	5	4	7	9	3	2	1	6
6	1	9	2	4	5	3	8	7
2	3	7	8	1	6	5	9	4

Difficulty Level ★ 10/18

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

THE MAGICAL WORLD OF DISNEY **Solution: 10 letters**

E	E	R	U	T	N	E	V	D	A	I	S	Y	C	O
A	N	I	M	A	L	S	C	T	R	N	B	E	A	R
A	C	T	I	O	N	A	H	A	O	E	L	L	E	B
M	H	Y	E	O	K	E	R	I	L	R	A	M	I	I
U	A	A	I	R	M	E	S	G	O	P	I	M	S	T
S	N	L	A	E	T	I	C	K	E	T	S	D	S	E
E	T	P	I	U	V	A	C	N	I	S	U	N	E	R
M	M	F	S	E	T	U	I	K	I	N	T	L	J	E
E	E	D	L	H	D	O	H	N	E	R	G	S	P	T
N	N	E	C	O	O	E	G	O	M	Y	P	E	A	C
T	T	A	N	E	R	W	S	R	T	E	R	R	R	A
E	E	A	Z	O	L	I	S	T	A	E	N	O	A	R
B	L	I	Z	Z	A	R	D	S	A	P	L	T	D	A
D	L	A	U	E	L	T	S	A	C	R	H	S	E	H
Ⓣ	Ⓢ	Ⓔ	Ⓑ	W	O	O	D	Y	R	T	N	U	O	C

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Yesterday's Answer: Scissors

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Oswalt, Rollins help Phillies even NLCS

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—This Roy was an ace, and he sparked a big inning with a daring dash around the bases.

Roy Oswalt pitched eight dominant innings, Jimmy Rollins drove in four runs and the Philadelphia Phillies beat the San Francisco Giants 6-1 Sunday night to even the NL championship series at one game apiece.

A day after Tim Lincecum outdueled Roy Halladay in a marquee matchup of aces, Oswalt beat Jonathan Sanchez.

The series shifts to San Francisco for Game 3 on Tuesday afternoon. Matt Cain faces Philadelphia's Cole Hamels, the 2008 World Series MVP.

Even though he didn't finish the outing, it sure was a complete game for Oswalt. He allowed one run and three hits, striking out nine. He also singled and scored a run after racing through a coach's stop sign in the seventh.

"I didn't see it until I got halfway down the line," Oswalt said of the sign. "I was hoping I would be able to get in there."

Cody Ross hit his third solo homer in two games for the Giants.

Rollins busted out of a 1 for 15 postseason slump, going 2 for 3 with a bases-loaded walk and a bases-clearing double.

Halladay followed up his no-hitter against the Reds in the division series with a subpar performance. He gave up four runs in seven innings.

"I knew it was just a matter of time," Rollins said.

Sanchez gave up three runs - two earned - and five hits in six-plus innings. The tough lefty had dominated the Phillies in his five previous starts against them, not allowing more than four hits in any outing.

Oswalt chased Sanchez with a line-drive single leading off the bottom of the seventh. He advanced to second on Shane Victorino's sacrifice off Ramon Ramirez. After Chase Utley was intentionally walked, Placido Polanco lined a single to center. Oswalt ran through third-base coach Sam Perlozzo's stop sign and slid safely ahead of the relay throw to give the Phillies a 3-1 lead.

"That was comical," Rollins said. "Roy's got those stiff hips and he looked like he was cardboard running down the line but he got it done tonight."

Jeremy Affeldt came in and struck out Ryan Howard after a double steal. Jayson Werth was intentionally walked before Santiago Casilla entered to face Rollins. The former NL MVP, dropped from leadoff to sixth in the batting order since the playoffs started, hit a drive off the right-center field fence to put the Phillies up 6-1.

An appreciative crowd chanted "J-Roll! J-Roll!" with a smiling Rollins standing on second.

AP

Home plate umpire Dan Iassogna makes the call as Philadelphia Phillies' Roy Oswalt slides safely home past San Francisco Giants catcher Buster Posey during the seventh inning of Game 2 of baseball's National League Championship Series Sunday, Oct. 17, 2010, in Philadelphia. Oswalt scored from second on a hit by Placido Polanco.

Oswalt didn't allow a hit until Ross connected with one out in the fifth to tie it at 1. He ripped a 1-0 pitch into the left-center field seats—nearly the same spot both of his homers off Halladay landed.

But the Phillies played small-ball—a rarity for this lineup filled with inconsistent sluggers—to take a 2-1 lead in the bottom half.

Victorino, one of the few Phillies with success off Sanchez, lined a double down the left-field line. He advanced to third on Utley's fly out to right and scored on Polanco's sacrifice fly to center, which drew a loud ovation.

The Phillies took advantage of Sanchez's wildness and scored an unearned run without getting a hit in the first.

Utley, flip-flopped with Polanco in the batting order, drew a one-out walk. Utley stole second and advanced to third when Polanco reached on third baseman Mike Fontenot's throwing error. Howard worked a walk after falling behind 1-2 in the count.

Sanchez then caught Werth looking at a slider for the second out. But Rollins walked to force in a run. Raul Ibanez fanned to end the inning.

Rollins got his second hit of the playoffs in the fourth when Fontenot let his popup land untouched near the mound. He was on second with two outs when plate umpire Dan Iassogna called a 1-2 pitch to Oswalt a ball. Oswalt took a step toward the dugout, thinking it was a strike. Sanchez walked off the mound, thinking the inning was over. Oswalt ended up flying out.

There have already been a few questionable calls by the plate umps in the first two games. In the opener, Derryl Cousins rung up Rollins on strike two.

Acquired from Houston on July 29, Oswalt went 7-1 with a 1.74 ERA in 13 games with the Phillies. Oswalt - not Halladay or Hamels - was Philadelphia's best pitcher down the stretch. The three-time All-Star was 7-0 with a 1.17 ERA in his last 10 starts.

Oswalt struggled against Cincinnati in Game 2 of the division series. He gave up three earned runs in five innings in a 7-4 win.

Oswalt improved to 5-0 with a 3.47 ERA in nine postseason games. He was the NLCS MVP with Houston in 2005.

For the third straight postseason, the city hosted a day-night football-baseball doubleheader with the Eagles playing early. The sports complex had a Christmas feel as fans wore their green and red to support both teams.

Just like the last two years, the Eagles did their part. They beat Atlanta 31-17. In '08, it was a city sweep with the Phillies beating Tampa Bay in Game 4 of the World Series in the nightcap after an Eagles' win over the Falcons. Last year, after the Eagles beat the New York Giants, the Phillies lost to the New York Yankees in Game 4 of the World Series.

The crowd of 46,099—the 135th straight sellout at Citizens Bank Park—was revved up right from the start, waving their "Fightin' Phils" rally towels and chanting "Let's Go Phillies."

They cheered loudly when Oswalt brushed back Ross with a high-and-tight fastball in the second.

Postseason ace vs. October pro in Game 3 of ALCS

NEW YORK (AP)—Cliff Lee and Andy Pettitte. The postseason ace against that ol' October pro.

With the best-of-seven AL championship series tied at one apiece, the scene shifts to Yankee Stadium for Game 3 on Monday night, when a pair of pressure-proven pitchers will be back in the spotlight.

Lee's left arm has been baseball's most dominant force in the past two postseasons, carrying him to a 6-0 mark with a 1.44 ERA and three complete games in seven starts.

He'll be on the mound for the Texas Rangers against Pettitte, who has an outstanding October resume of his own. The longtime Yankees lefty is going for his 20th postseason win.

"Obviously, it's a great matchup," New York manager Joe Girardi said Sunday, when the Yankees and Rangers worked out under blue skies in the Bronx. "I think people are looking forward to tomorrow."

Coming off the first home playoff win in the franchise's 50-season history, the Rangers are back on the road - where they're unbeaten in these playoffs. Texas won all three first-round games at AL East champion Tampa Bay, including a pair of masterpieces by Lee.

Next, he'll try to join Orlando Hernandez and Orel Hershiser as the only pitchers to win their first seven postseason decisions. Hernandez opened 8-0 for the Yankees from 1998-2000, while Hershiser went 7-0 with the Los Angeles Dodgers and Cleveland Indians from 1985-95.

"I've got high expectations for myself. Regardless of what's happened in the past or what other people expect of me, I expect as much out of myself or more than anybody is going to expect of me," Lee said. "So I don't look at it any different than I would any other game. I expect to be successful and that's the game tomorrow and every time I take the mound."

Because of his overwhelming brilliance, most of the buzz leading up to this matchup has revolved around Lee, nearly acquired by the Yankees before Seattle traded him to Texas on July 9.

That's just fine with the 38-year-old Pettitte, who is 5-0 with a 2.88 ERA in his last nine postseason starts and always seems to come through when New York needs him most.

After missing two months with a groin injury and making only three starts in September, he pitched seven solid innings to beat Minnesota in Game 2 of the division series.

"I feel like there's not a whole lot of attention that I get anyways. It's been like that kind of my whole career. I guess I can say I'm used to that. It's always maybe the other guy that's going to get that. That's totally fine with me," Pettitte said. "I'm kind of uncomfortable with a whole lot of attention. I want to go out and do my job, give us a chance to win that ballgame."

The high-scoring Yankees, with baseball's top offense this season, have been as overmatched by Lee as everyone else lately. They like to work pitchers and grind out at-bats, but their patient approach can be countered by Lee because he keeps everything on or around the plate.

"If he's coming out and throwing a lot of strikes, we can't be taking," Mark Teixeira said.

In his last five starts in the Bronx, Lee is 5-0 with a 1.67 ERA and two complete games, including a six-hitter in the World Series opener for the Phillies last year when he struck out 10 and gave up only an unearned run.

In fact, he won both his World Series starts for Philadelphia. New York took the other four games.

"Cliff can't do it by himself," Rangers manager Ron Washington said. "He's only human. If anything goes wrong, he's going against a ballclub that can make you pay."

Lee struggled in August, then had an injection in his aching back and took almost two weeks off before returning to face the Yankees at home on Sept. 12. He allowed two hits in eight-plus innings of a 4-1 win.

In the postseason, he's been nearly perfect, piling up 54 strikeouts while walking only six in 56 1-3 innings. He struck out 21 and did not walk a batter in two starts spanning 16 innings against the Rays.

"I would like to throw a full season without walking anyone. I know that's probably unrealistic, but if you make every single team you face swing their way around the bases, it's going to pay off in the end," said Lee, who also won the regular-season opener at new Yankee Stadium for Cleveland in April 2009.

If the Yankees have their way, this will be the last time they see the 32-year-old Lee until they start throwing money at him this offseason, when he can become a free agent.

But if the Rangers win Monday night, New York would need to take the next three in a row to advance without facing him in a decisive Game 7 at Texas.

"We've faced a lot of pitchers throughout the years that have had great reputations. Reputation doesn't win games," Yankees captain Derek Jeter said. "You still have to go out there and pitch."

Pettitte knows that as well as anybody. At 19-9 with a 3.87 ERA, he holds major league records for wins, starts (41) and innings (256) in the postseason.

"He's been through it so many times, does not become rattled, knows how to prepare for this type of game," Girardi said. "Experience is an important thing when it comes to this time of year, because you don't expect Andy to get too hyped up. He'll be the same guy that he is during the regular season."

Roethlisberger throws 3 TDs in Steelers win

AP

Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger (7) lines up before throwing a third-quarter touchdown to Hines Ward during an NFL football game against the Cleveland Browns in Pittsburgh, Sunday, Oct. 17, 2010. The Steelers won, 28-10.

PITTSBURGH (AP)—With Ben Roethlisberger reveling in the cheers he once feared he might not hear, the Pittsburgh Steelers looked like themselves for the first time all season. They also sounded like the team that loves to intimidate.

To the Cleveland Browns, it was Steelers linebacker James Harrison who was the game's impact player. Twice.

Roethlisberger, cheered loudly during his first game in 9 1/2 months, returned from his four-game suspension to throw three touchdown passes, and the Steelers shut down a Browns offense that was depleted by Harrison hits during a 28-10 victory on Sunday.

With the Steelers (4-1) leading 7-3 but backed up to their own 4 late in the third quarter, Roethlisberger - flashing the big-play ability his team lacked without him - completed passes of 50 yards to Mike Wallace and 36 yards to Heath Miller on successive plays.

Three plays later, Hines Ward fought through two potential tacklers on an 8-yard touchdown catch that made it 14-3

Roethlisberger also threw scoring passes of 29 yards to Wallace and 14 yards to Miller. He finished 16 of 27 for 257 yards during his first regular-season game since he was accused of, but not charged with, sexually assaulting a Georgia college student in March.

Then, numerous Steelers fans professed to be outraged with the quarterback's actions. Except for 20 sign-carrying protesters outside Heinz Field, that anger wasn't evident as Roethlisberger received numerous loud ovations from the standing-room crowd of 65,168.

"I started thinking about it on the way here," said Roethlisberger, who once worried that his reception would be chilly. "Before the game I got emotional. To hear the cheers was something special. I got a little emotional."

The Browns (1-5) couldn't get into the end zone until rookie Colt McCoy threw a 12-yard scoring pass to Ben Watson with Pittsburgh already up by 18 points.

McCoy (23 of 33, 281 yards, five sacks) didn't look overwhelmed in his first NFL start, but he played with a depleted cast after Harrison hits sidelined wide receivers Joshua Cribbs and Mohamed Massaquoi with head injuries during the second quarter.

"We had our hands full with those guys," McCoy said. "They're really fast, they're really good."

Cribbs left after a helmet-to-helmet caused him to crumple onto the turf for several minutes. Massaquoi was shaken up after Harrison's hit caused him to drop a pass. Alex Mack, angry at how Harrison kept sidelining his teammates, reacted by angrily kicking the ball about 20 yards to the Browns' sideline, drawing a delay-of-game penalty.

"You don't want to injure people. I don't want to injure anybody," Harrison said. "But I'm not opposed to hurting anybody."

Apparently, his teammates aren't, either.

"He's a beast," Ward said of the 2008 Defensive Player of the Year. "When you see him knocking guys out, you know he's a man on a mission. You don't want to see guys get hurt, but he set the tempo for us."

With Cribbs unable to operate the wildcat set the Browns used effectively in upsetting the Steelers 13-6 in December, Cleveland's offense took on a more predictable and easier-to-defend look. Cribbs ran for 83 yards in that game; this time, Peyton Hills had a team-high 41 yards.

"It makes it tough when you're planning to vary the attack with couple of different things, and we're out of it with quite a bit of the game left," said coach Eric Mangini, who started McCoy because Seneca Wallace and Jake Delhomme have high ankle sprains.

The Browns were forced to play the second half with only two healthy wide receivers, Brian Robiskie and Chansi Stuckey. It was another oddity in a game in which none of the four active quarterbacks—Roethlisberger and Byron Leftwich, McCoy and Brett Ratliff—had previously thrown a pass all season.

Still, McCoy's encouraging performance against a defense that has allowed a league-low 60 points offered some hope.

"He had a lot of poise for his first game, playing against one of the toughest defenses in the league," Mangini said.

The Steelers, beating Cleveland for the 13th time in 14 games, moved into first place in the AFC North as Baltimore (4-2) lost to New England 23-20 in overtime.

Roethlisberger didn't get off to a great start; he was intercepted on Pittsburgh's first drive, but came back to find Wallace for the game's only touchdown in the first 41-plus minutes.

"We didn't want him to be flawless," said Wallace, who welcomed Roethlisberger back by cutting the Mohawk haircut the quarterback disliked. "Then we wouldn't have anything to work on in practice."

To ease Roethlisberger in, the Steelers ran Rashard Mendenhall frequently at the start. He finished with 84 yards, including a 2-yard TD run.

Cleveland's most effective play was a punt inside the Steelers 10; Reggie Hodges did that four times, repeatedly backing the Steelers up and keeping the game close—at least until Roethlisberger got away from a predictably conservative game plan to hit the long passes to Wallace and Miller.

Eagles 31, Falcons 17

At Philadelphia, Jeremy Maclin and DeSean Jackson each scored two touchdowns as Philadelphia snapped Atlanta's four-game winning streak.

A head-on collision in the second quarter cost Philadelphia star receiver Jackson, and Atlanta lost cornerback Dunta Robinson, both with head injuries. Jackson dropped a pass when hit by Robinson, who led with his head and hit Jackson in the helmet. Robinson was flagged for hitting a defenseless receiver.

Patriots 23, Ravens 20, OT

At Foxborough, Massachusetts, Stephen Gostkowski's 35-yard field goal with 1:56 left in overtime gave New England a come-from-behind win.

Deion Branch, acquired five days after Randy Moss was traded to Minnesota on Oct. 6, sparked the comeback from a 20-10 deficit starting with a 5-yard scoring pass from Tom Brady four minutes into the fourth quarter. The Patriots then forced the Ravens to punt and marched from their 14 to a third down at the Baltimore 3 and settled for Gostkowski's 24-yard tying field goal.

Jets 24, Broncos 20

At Denver, LaDainian Tomlinson scored his second touchdown from 2 yards out with 73 seconds left after a pass interference flag and New York rallied past Denver.

On fourth-and-6 from the Denver 48, Denver safety Renaldo Hill and Jets receiver Santonio Holmes jostled near the goal line and the ball fell incomplete as the crowd went crazy. But field judge Gary Cavaletto threw his yellow flag and called Hill for pass interference.

Vikings 24, Cowboys 21

At Minneapolis, Percy Harvin's 95-yard kickoff return for a touchdown gave Minnesota a spark to start the second half, as the Vikings overcame another uneven game by Brett Favre in a victory over Dallas.

Playing with a bad elbow and the specter of a scandal hovering over him, Favre—who is to meet with NFL security Tuesday about the alleged racy messages he sent to a former New York Jets employee—finished 14 for 19 for 118 yards, one TD and one turnover.

Giants 28, Lions 20

At East Rutherford, New Jersey, Eli Manning threw two touchdown passes and the Giants sent error-prone Detroit to an NFL record-tying 24th straight road loss.

Safety Deon Grant preserved the third straight win for the Giants (4-2) by forcing and recovering a fumble by Lions' receiver Nate Burleson at the Giants 42 with about five minutes to go and New York ahead by four points.

Rams 20, Chargers 17

At St. Louis, James Hall, Chris Long and Larry Grant had two sacks each as St. Louis shut down the NFL's top offense for its third straight win at home.

Sam Bradford threw a 38-yard touchdown pass to fellow rookie Danario Alexander, making his NFL debut, to help build a 14-point cushion in the first half. Steven Jackson, who finished with 109 yards, also scored and had several key late carries for the Rams (3-3).

Texans 35, Chiefs 31

At Houston, Matt Schaub threw an 11-yard touchdown pass to Andre Johnson with 28 seconds left to give Houston a stunning fourth-quarter comeback victory.

The Texans (4-2) trailed 31-21 with just over 7 minutes left after Thomas Jones' 11-yard TD run. Schaub threw two long passes to Owen Daniels before Arian Foster scored with 3:30 left to cut the Chiefs' lead to 3.

Matt Cassel threw three TD passes for Kansas City (3-2).

Saints 31, Buccaneers 6

At Tampa, Florida, Drew Brees threw for 263 yards and three touchdowns as New Orleans downed Tampa Bay.

The Super Bowl champions rebounded from a mistake-filled road loss, scoring on their first three possessions and getting an unexpected lift from rookie running back Chris Ivory.

Dolphins 23, Packers 20 OT

At Green Bay, Wisconsin, Dan Carpenter kicked a 44-yard field goal with 9:01 left in overtime to lift Miami past Green Bay.

It was the second straight overtime loss for the injury-riddled Packers (3-3), who lost at Washington last week.

Seahawks 23, Bears 20

At Chicago, Matt Hasselbeck threw for a season-best 242 yards and a touchdown and Seattle's defense sacked Jay Cutler six times in a win over Chicago.

Cutler was in trouble much of the game, and completed just 17 of 39 for 290 yards. He missed last week's game with a concussion after being sacked nine times by the Giants the previous week.

49ers 17, Raiders 9

At San Francisco, Alex Smith threw second-half touchdown passes to Michael Crabtree and Vernon Davis as San Francisco finally won its first game, beating Oakland.

Crabtree made a go-ahead 32-yard TD reception on the last play of the third quarter and Smith hit Davis on a 17-yard score with 7:14 remaining.

Colts 27, Redskins 24

At Landover, Maryland, Peyton Manning threw for 307 yards and two touchdowns to lead Indianapolis over Washington.

Manning completed 25 of 38 passes, with scoring throws of 57 yards to Pierre Garcon and 5 yards to Austin Collie.

Joseph Addai ran for 128 yards and a touchdown for the Colts before leaving with a shoulder injury.

Sounders take opener in Rocball league

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The 2010-2011 Saipan Rocball League started its season last Saturday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium with Sounders edging Soul Rebels in five sets.

Rodney Rosario led Sounders opening game win, scoring 32 points off 10 kees, three aces, and two goals.

Sounders swept the first three set, 28-12, 26-12, 28-11, but failed to finish the game early when Soul Rebels recovered in the fourth set, 26-21. Then in the fifth set, Sounders regrouped and won, 28-18.

The first game of the season had teams producing 13 aces, 31 kees, one goal, and one xunk. Sounders outclassed Soul Rebels in the service game with the former making 10 aces against the latter's three. In kees, Sounders tallied 23 against the Soul Rebels' only eight. The five goals and one xunk in the opening game were all courtesy of Sounders.

The Rocball league will have its Week 2 action this Saturday with defending champion Fanians facing former league titlists Islanders.

Meanwhile, students interested playing rocball high school games can do so during lunch hour at the MHS gym.

Rocball on Saipan is created by James Feger. It is first team net sport of its kind to incorporate offensive and defensive scoring, multiple point scoring, penalty points, and a quarter set system of play where teams can win by total points scored after four sets of play.

Masters caging final meeting today

Masters Basketball Federation of the Northern Mariana Islands is calling on representatives of participating teams in the 2010 Memorial Cup Masters Basketball 40A and 45A League to attend a final meeting today at the conference room of the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The meeting is set for 5:30pm with league organizers expected to discuss preparations for the opening of the competition on Oct. 23.

This weekend's opening ceremony and the league itself will be dedicated in memory of the following beloved CNMI players: Saipan's Pete Techur (1986), Tom Barcinas (2004), James Tanaka (2005), Ric Alegre (2008), Nick Loste (2008), Gerald Feritti (2009), Ross Persadde, and Tinian's Tony Borja (2009).

Games in the masters caging will be played only every Saturday and Sunday with a single round robin format in the regular season. After completion of the regular season, the Top 8 teams will advance to the playoffs for a chance to compete for the championship in each division.

To participate in the league, players are required to provide proof of age eligibility, signed waiver forms and pay the non-refundable $5 membership fee. Head coaches and assistant coaches must also be MBFNMI registered members.

The Masters league primarily endorses FIBA rules with a few modified ground rules that will be discussed in detail in today's meeting. Trophy categories are still being determined by the MBFNMI Board and will be confirmed before the official kickoff date.

For more information, email masterbasketball_670@yahoo.com. ***(Walter Sutherland)***

SIS

From Page 28

finished last with their 5-11 slate.

In the second game yesterday, the SCS Tsunamis took the second semis ticket in the junior varsity division, as it also recorded a sweep against Calvary Christian Academy.

Saipan Community and Calvary went neck-and-neck in the opening set with the former pulling off a 25-20 triumph. The second set was a bit easier for SCS, as it nailed an 11-point win, 25-14.

It was an upset victory for the Tsunamis, who were seeded sixth in the playoffs after finishing the double-round robin regular season with a 9-7 record. The CCA Sharks were ranked third after the regular season, holding a 10-6 slate.

Saipan Community is coached by Darin Keizer with Jake Van Dam as assistant. Members of the SCS junior varsity team include Jehn Joyner, Tammy Troy, William Fong, Shawn Bae, Linden Johnson, Xuan Jun Lu, Brianna Fajardo, Elnathan Wong, Lindsay Esplin, Quintin and Colin Ramsey, Christina Matsunaga, Jin and Jun Pyo, Roy and Kui Lee, and Daniel Jang.

Meanwhile, four more teams will battle for the last two semis seats today, as the junior varsity playoff round continues at the Ada gym.

In the first game at 3pm, Whispering Palms will take on Grace Christian Academy, while in the second match at 4:15, Marianas Baptist will challenge Seventh Day Adventist.

Whispering Palms placed second in the regular season with its 11-5 record, while the defending champion GCA was ranked seventh, following its 6-10 mark. The MBA Stormz, which ended the regular season with a 10-6 record, was seeded fourth, while SDA was ranked fifth with its 9-7 slate.

Winners of today's matches will duel for one of the two finals berths on Thursday. The championship game in the junior varsity division will be played this Friday.

After the junior varsity playoffs, COPSSA will start the race for the varsity division championship next week.

SONICS

From Page 28

last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Rollers A played in the second game of the day and clobbered Rollers C, 68-28, while the Sonics defeated Rollers B in the curtain-raiser, 46-35.

A 20-9 lead in the first quarter was all Rollers A needed to take control of the game en route to a 40-point triumph.

Hughen Cholymay led Rollers A's attack early, nailing six first-quarter points. He received support from teammates, Stacy Escueta and Erick Del Rosa, who scored four points apiece.

On defense, Rollers A contained Rollers C to only 15 points in the whole first half, extending the former's lead to 19 points at the break 34-15. Renan Lansang paced Rollers A in the second quarter with his six points.

Rollers C tried to make adjustments after the break but was outclassed down low by its much taller opponents. Rollers C struggled all game to recover rebounds and work the ball inside. J.P. Iglesias scored seven for Rollers C in the third, but Rollers A was already way ahead, 47-24.

Rollers A opted not to bench its starters in the final period and ran up the scoreboard against the deflated Rollers C crew. Rollers C was stuffed at the end and was held to only four markers in the fourth canto.

Rollers C showed speed and the ability to work the ball around in a half court set against Rollers A, but it lost several possessions and most of its players were gun-shy. Of the six Rollers C players who scored, only two tallied more than one basket.

Cholymay led Rollers A with 11 points, while Rollers C's Iglesias finished with 12 in the loss.

In the first game, the Sonics defense limited Rollers B to four points in the first quarter and jumped ahead to an early 12-4 lead. Rollers B tried to gain its footing in the second period, but the Sonics stood their ground and even padded their lead at the half, 28-14.

Christian Mizer tallied eight markers in the first half to lead the Sonics, while William Camacho managed six points for Rollers B in frame one.

Rollers B held Sonics to only eight points in the third, but still the latter protected their double-digit advantage, 36-24, with only one quarter left in the game.

Shane Deleon Guerrero came out strong for Rollers B in the fourth, firing nine points, but the Sonics always found ways to halt their foes' rallies to keep the lead and the win.

Mizer top-scored for the Sonics with 12 points, while Deleon Guerrero ended up with 11 for the Rollers B.

First Game

Sonics 46 – Mizer 12, Aranda 10, Alegre 6, Escalada 4, DeGuzman 4, Salem 4, Andrew 2, Reyes 2, Villanueva 2.

Roller B 35 – De Leon Guerrero 11, Camacho 8, Kwon 5, Malonzo 3, Cadiang 2, Capuyon 2, Pangelinan 2, Yatsoi 2.

Scoring by quarters: 12-4, 28-14, 36-24, 46-35.

Second Game

Rollers A 68 – Cholymay 11, Escueta 8, Kautz 8, Lansang 8, Rasa 6, Camacho 5, Diaz 4, Mancao 4, Nakayama 4, Saurez 4, Tallion 4, Hambros 2, William 2.

Rollers C 28 – J. Iglesias 12, Darag 8, Castillo 2, Feria 2, Floresca 2, Vivero 2

Scoring by quarters: 20-9, 34-15, 47-24, 68-28.

ROTA BLUE

From Page 28

"Preliminary reports indicate we are going to have over 100 participants from Japan this year, which is great news," said MVA Community Projects Manager Martin Duenas. "We're working closely with our event sponsors to complete preparations and stage a smooth event that will again showcase the best that Rota has to offer international visitors."

According to Kiyokazu Onishi, President of principal sponsor Kiyokazu Fitness Club of Japan, baseball star Atsushi Furuta of Japan's Central League Swallows will join the triathlon. Former Rota Blue champion Hideya Miyazuka and fellow professional Taro Shirato will also return for the event.

The annual triathlon will feature two distances. One is the A-type solo triathlon, which will include a 1.5-km swim, 40-km biking course, and a 10-km run and the other is the B-type solo triathlon, which will have 2-km swim, followed by a 90-km rigorous biking course, and a 21-km run. There will also be an A-type team triathlon. The A-type triathlons have no time limit, while the B-type has an eight-hour time limit.

Registration fees are as follows: A-type solo triathlon for all 3 events is $80, B-type solo triathlon for all 3 events is $100, and A-type team triathlon is $70/person for two or three persons. The entry fee includes an event t-shirt, high-quality swim cap, the awards banquet, and a guaranteed great time.

Pre-registration will take place on Nov. 12 from 11am to 12:30pm at the Bay Breeze Restaurant & Bar. The swim inspection will be held from 1 p.m. to 2:30pm at the East Harbor. Final registration will take place the same day from 4:30pm to 8pm at the Rota Resort & Country Club, with the pre-race briefing for all participants held at the same venue from 6pm to 7:30pm.

Starting time is 6:30am at Rota's East Harbor. Wetsuits are permitted and bike helmets are required. The awards banquet will be held on race day at 6:30am at Rota's East Harbor.

The annual triathlon is also supported by the Rota Mayor's Office and the Rota community.

For more information about the Rota Blue Triathlon, contact Frank Tudela of the MVA at 1-670-664-3200/01 or via email at ftudela@mymarianas.com, or Sandra Atalig of the MVA Rota Office at 1-670-532-0327 or via email at satalig@mymarianas.com. ***(PR)***

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
N.Y. Jets	5	1	0	.833	159	101
New England	4	1	0	.800	154	116
Miami	3	2	0	.600	89	112
Buffalo	0	5	0	.000	87	161
South						
Houston	4	2	0	.667	153	167
Indianapolis	4	2	0	.667	163	125
Jacksonville	3	2	0	.600	107	137
Tennessee	3	2	0	.600	132	95
North						
Pittsburgh	4	1	0	.800	114	60
Baltimore	4	2	0	.667	112	95
Cincinnati	2	3	0	.400	100	102
Cleveland	1	5	0	.167	88	125
West						
Kansas City	3	2	0	.600	108	92
Oakland	2	4	0	.333	120	151
Denver	2	4	0	.333	124	140
San Diego	2	4	0	.333	157	126

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
N.Y. Giants	4	2	0	.667	134	118
Philadelphia	4	2	0	.667	153	120
Washington	3	3	0	.500	113	119
Dallas	1	4	0	.200	102	111
South						
Atlanta	4	2	0	.667	130	101
New Orleans	4	2	0	.667	130	108
Tampa Bay	3	2	0	.600	80	111
Carolina	0	5	0	.000	52	110
North						
Chicago	4	2	0	.667	112	97
Green Bay	3	3	0	.500	139	112
Minnesota	2	3	0	.400	87	88
Detroit	1	5	0	.167	146	140
West						
Arizona	3	2	0	.600	88	138
Seattle	3	2	0	.600	98	97
St. Louis	3	3	0	.500	103	113
San Francisco	1	5	0	.167	93	139

Yesterday's Games
Seattle 23, Chicago 20
Miami 23, Green Bay 20, OT
Houston 35, Kansas City 31
Pittsburgh 28, Cleveland 10
St. Louis 20, San Diego 17
N.Y. Giants 28, Detroit 20
New England 23, Baltimore 20, OT
Philadelphia 31, Atlanta 17
New Orleans 31, Tampa Bay 6
N.Y. Jets 24, Denver 20
San Francisco 17, Oakland 9
Minnesota 24, Dallas 21
Indianapolis 27, Washington 24

By The Associated Press

SAIPAN

From Page 28

as he found the back of the net with only five minutes left in the championship match.

Saipan Blue drew first blood in the finals after midfielder Epley scored in the 10th minute. Then with 12 minutes remaining on the clock, Saipan White striker Matt Holley tricked Smith for the equalizer before Nagayasu redeemed Saipan Blue with his goal in the homestretch.

Saipan White played the first match in the tournament last Saturday and nailed a 3-1 victory over KFA. The runner-up team had its second game against Big Blue of Guam and the match resulted in a 0-0 draw.

Last Sunday, Saipan White had its last game in the elimination against Rovers, also from Guam, and the former recorded a shutout win, 2-0. Saipan White finished the elimination round with seven points, tying KFA in second place. The Korean strikers lost in the tiebreak for the second finals ticket, as it bowed to Saipan White earlier.

Saipan Blue also started its campaign in the goodwill tournament on a bright note, blanking Rovers, 2-0. In its second game, Saipan Blue nailed a similar 2-0 triumph over Big Blue, but failed to sweep the elimination round after losing to KFA, 1-2.

Despite the defeat, Saipan Blue earned the most points (nine) in the round-robin tournament to gain the first finals berth.

Bud Light, IT&E and Joeten Motors supported the weekend tournament.

50K Pre-Hell of Marianas Bike Race

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

From left, Butch Sublemente, Kieran Daly, and Lewie Tenorio sprint to the finish line during last Sunday's 50K Pre-Hell of Marianas Bike Race.

A group of riders near the finish line.

Pacific Island Club bikers pose for a group photo.

Bikers chat after the race.

Mountain bike top finisher Nap Dizon flashes the No. 1 sign as he nears the finish line.

First female finisher Mieko Carey smiles as she nears completion of the race.

Gua's Jazy Garcia, right, receives his first place prize from Pacific Islands Club's Dennis Tababa.

Al Fernandez leads two other riders to the finish line.

Ben Babauta pedals hard going into the last few meters of the race.

Eric Cooke is a few meters away from the finish line.

Oswalt, Rollins help Phillies even NLCS

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Roethlisberger throws 3 TDs in Steelers win

PAGE 25

SIS, SCS sweep playoff foes

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan International School A and Saipan Community School eased past separate opponents during the first round of the playoffs in the junior varsity division of the 2010-2011 Coalition of Private Schools Sports Association Volleyball League yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The SIS Geckos A was pitted against Mt. Carmel School in the first playoff game and cruised to a straight set win. The Kim Peterson-coached Geckos A dominated the opening set, 25-16, to move a win away from clinching a semis seat.

In the second set, the Knights put up a gallant fight, but their bid to extend the game fell short, as SIS went steady in the end and eked out a 25-23 triumph.

With the win, the Geckos A, who are composed of Seoung Hyun Lee, Emily Jones, Phalai Frink, Sophia Tenorio, Allen and Chris Cepeda, Andrew Johnson, Sung Min Ahn, Chris Park, Hunter Jewell, and Jordan Butcher, will face Saipan Community in the semifinals on Thursday.

Peterson's wards topped the regular season of the junior varsity division, carding an impressive 13-3 mark. The Knights

See SIS on Page 26

Saipan Community School's Jehn Joyner returns to Calvary Christian Academy during their playoff game in the COPSSA junior varsity volleyball league yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The 17th Annual Rota Blue Triathlon will be held on Nov. 13 with Marianas Visitors Authority expecting over 100 participants from Japan.

Rota Blue Triathlon to attract more than 100 Japanese

The 17th Annual Rota Blue Triathlon continues to build an international name for itself, as the Marianas Visitors Authority reports over 100 Japanese triathletes, including returning professional triathletes and other well-known athletes, are expected for the Nov. 13 event.

The MVA has been heavily promoting the annual signature event, which will challenge contestants to a 2-km swim, 90-km bike course, and 21-km run on the lush and quiet island of Rota, the southernmost in the Northern Mariana Islands chain. A shorter distance course will also be available.

See ROTA BLUE on Page 26

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Players from the participating teams in the 2010 Bud Light CNMI Elite Soccer Tournament pose for a group photo at the conclusion of the weekend tournament at the Oleai Sports Complex.

Saipan Blue tops soccer tournament

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan Blue ruled the five-team 2010 Bud Light CNMI Elite Soccer Tournament held over the weekend at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

Saipan Blue finished the two-day tournament with four wins and a loss. The winning team was composed of goalie Glen Smith, Steven McKagan, Adam Hardwicke, Ben Wood, Tom Linden, Peter Bonser, David Loan, Peter Houk, Masa Otsuka, Choi Chon Won, Dale Roberts, David Duenas, Sunji Nagayasu, Rob Epley, and Greg Borja.

A 2-1 victory over Saipan White in the one-game finals clinched the championship for Saipan Blue, which advanced to the title game after beating Korean Football Association in the tiebreak.

Nagayasu delivered the title-winning goal for Saipan Blue,

See SAIPAN on Page 26

Sonics, Rollers A prevail in U15 games

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rollers A showed no love lost to sister team Rollers C, while the Sonics thumped Rollers B during the resumption of the U15 division of the 2010 Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League

See SONICS on Page 26

Rollers A players gather for a group photo after beating Rollers C in the U15 division of the Rotary caging last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

WALTER SUTHERLAND